

Government of the Russian Federation

**Nizhny Novgorod branch
of the Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution
for Higher Professional Education
"Higher School of Economics"
"National Research University"**

Department of Law

**International Law in Action: A Guide to the International Courts and
Tribunals in The Hague**

for the Bachelor's program in the Legal Profession discipline area 40.03.01

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Approved at the meeting of the Department of Theory and History of Law and State

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Department Chair M.E. Loschkareva _____

Approved by the Academic Council of the educational program

«__»_____ 2017, Protocol № _____

Academic supervisor of the program

M.E. Loshkareva _____

Nizhny Novgorod, 2017

This program cannot be used by other divisions of the University and other universities without the permission of the Department-developer.



Scope and normative references

This academic program specifies the minimum requirements for the knowledge and skills of a student and determines the content and types of training sessions and reporting. This academic program is based on the online-course named 'International Law in Action: A Guide to the International Courts and Tribunals in The Hague', <https://www.coursera.org/learn/international-law-in-action?authMode=login#syllabus>

The target audience of the program shall be lecturers in this discipline, teaching assistants, and students in the 40.03.01 Legal Profession discipline area.

The program was developed in accordance with:

- Educational standards of HSE for the Bachelor's program in the Legal Profession discipline area 40.03.01
- The Bachelor's program in the Legal Profession discipline area 40.03.01
- The working curriculum of the University for the Bachelor's program in the Legal Profession discipline area 40.03.01 approved in 2014

The objectives of the training under the discipline program

The training in the International Law in Action is aimed to develop knowledge and skills, sufficient for subsequent digestion of branch disciplines.

Student competence generated as a result of the discipline study

After the study of the discipline the student should:

Be familiar with the concepts and the main characteristics of International law; basic laws of origin, function and development of International law; the role of International law in the management of current international relations, conflict settlement and combating crime; development of the basic institutions of international humanitarian, maritime, economic, diplomatic and consular law, the law of armed conflict, international treaties and organizations.

Be able to operate with legal concepts and categories; to analyze legislation and legal relationships arising therefrom; to analyze, interpret and apply the law correctly.

Have skills for working knowledge with legal acts, analyzing various legal events and relations, which are the objects of professional activity; solution of legal problems and conflicts.

As a result of the discipline study students shall develop the following competencies:

Competence	Code	Descriptors: the main characteristics of mastering (achievement indicators)	Teaching forms and methods that promote the formation and development of competence
Able to learn, acquire knowledge and skills in various fields, including those different from professional	UK-1	Has the required skills for perception, assessment, reproduction and revision of new data, has the ability to generate new legal strategies on that basis, has the ability to adapt to unknown conditions quickly with the use of information	Online-Course, Online test, exam



Competence	Code	Descriptors: the main characteristics of mastering (achievement indicators)	Teaching forms and methods that promote the formation and development of competence
		acquired within fields different from jurisprudence	
Able to brainstorm options in the professional field on the basis of analysis and synthesis	UK-3	Received enough knowledge to apply methods of scientific perception correctly, has the ability to process data and make relevant conclusions for the purposes of law enforcement and scientific research	Online-Course, Online test, exam
Able to conduct practical activity in the international field	UK-10	Has the ability to apply received knowledge and skills within various legal proceeding on an international level, has the ability to apply relevant legal instruments	Online-Course, Online test, exam
Able to qualify juridical facts and invoke corresponding legal norms	PK-1	Has adequate knowledge and skills to apply legal instruments and mechanisms for the purposes of law enforcement	Online-Course, Online test, exam
Ready to search, analyze and revise legally relevant information with the use of technical, comparative and other specific methods of perception	PK-2	Has knowledge and skills required for qualified research, has the ability to use various instruments of processing information, able to produce reasonable unbiased decisions	Online-Course, Online test, exam
Able to provide protection of rights and freedoms of individuals, corporations by means of consulting, legal representation before government and municipal organs, national and international courts, tribunals, IGOs	PK-8	Has adequate competence in terms of dispute settlement and legal proceedings at every stage of law enforcement	Online-Course, Online test, exam
Able to implement various types of professional activities on the basis of legal and professional ethics	PK-12	Demonstrates high standards of professional qualification and legal consciousness	Online-Course, Online test, exam
Able to interact, cooperate and	PK-16	Has sufficient communi-	Online-Course, Online



Competence	Code	Descriptors: the main characteristics of mastering (achievement indicators)	Teaching forms and methods that promote the formation and development of competence
resolve conflicts		cative skills, ability to generate strategies within a team of lawyers, ready to search for and produce several applicable options within a dispute	test, exam

The place of the discipline in the structure of the education program

This discipline refers to the base of the professional disciplines' cycle.

The study of this discipline is based on the following disciplines:

1. Theory of State and Law
2. History of slate and law of foreign countries
3. Constitutional Law of Russia
4. Constitutional Law of foreign countries

To master the discipline students should have the following skills and competencies:

When proceeding to the study of this course students should have an average level of knowledge on the constitutional rights, having skills in legal analysis of the legal sources, to know the concept, features and the essence of state and law, historical types and forms of state and law.

The foundations of the discipline should be used to a further study of the following disciplines:

1. Problems of the theory of law
2. Environmental law
3. Criminal law
4. Criminal procedure
5. Law of the European Union
6. Legal regulation of economic activity

Discipline curriculum

Credits – 4. Total amount of hours - 152

Syllabus (taken from the official Coursera website):

<https://www.coursera.org/learn/international-law-in-action?authMode=login#syllabus>

Knowledge and skills assessment criterion

During all forms of monitoring the assessment is made on ten-grade scale.

To pass the test the student must demonstrate his mastering of the conceptual apparatus and the basic legal concepts as well as the basic skills to analyze the international legislation. When writing his essay the student must demonstrate his ability to conduct an independent re-



search and to draw conclusions on the basis of information obtained from sources and scientific literature. A mandatory requirement to all written works shall be language accuracy and the correct use of scientific vocabulary and references.

During tests and examinations the student must demonstrate the mastering of at least 70% of the studied material, skills for analyzing historical and legal sources, correct application of legislation, mastering of legal terminology, the ability to think legally.

Discipline content

An introduction to the International Courts and Tribunals in The Hague (Week 1)

Lecturers discuss the evolution of international dispute settlement in the international legal order. The leading question is: why did people start thinking about creating international courts? Lecturers will also introduce the community of international courts present in The Hague today.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) (Week 2)

Students are going to explore the principle judicial organ of the United Nations—the International Court of Justice. This Court has dual functions as an institution that settles disputes between States, and as an advice giver within the UN system. Students will explore the limitations that the Court faces in its fulfilment of these functions as well as its potential as an institution, particularly in the context of disputes involving the protection of the environment.

The Arbitration of International Disputes (Week 3)

Students will explore the world of international arbitration. They will focus on the Permanent court of arbitration, inter-state arbitration and investor-state arbitration. They will discover the history and characteristics of arbitration and they will understand how its functioning is impacted by the dynamics at play within the international and domestic societies. Students will also come to realize the importance of public interests in the disputes settled through arbitration and learn how they are taken into account in international arbitration.

International Criminal Courts and Tribunals (Week 4)

This week examines a relatively new type of international courts, namely international criminal courts, with a focus on the ICC. Students will discuss ongoing cases and debates, including sensitive issues such as the prosecution of sitting Heads of States. They will also inquire whether the international community is in need of a new dedicated international terrorism tribunal.

Conclusions of the three Course Themes (Week 5)

Students will directly focus on the three course themes that have structured the discussions in the previous modules: law and politics, state consent and global values. For each of these themes, the videos of this module will give the opportunity to synthesize the knowledge that students have acquired over the course and to compare the various courts and tribunals that have been analyzed through the lenses of the course themes. The videos in this module will also offer some concluding observations and insights which will stimulate students to continue to reflect on these three themes and the international courts in The Hague more generally.



Educational technologies

In the course of studying the discipline attention shall be given to analytical work with a source, as well as the active students work with practice cases in the international courts and tribunals. Several corresponding discussion sessions shall be dedicated to role-playing and business games.

Tutorial recommendations

The supervisor needs to be familiar with the online-course

<https://www.coursera.org/learn/international-law-in-action?authMode=login#syllabus>

Tutorial recommendations for students

Students are recommended to start their studies in the beginning of the year along with the of-line-course 'Public International Law'.

Evaluation tools for monitoring and review of students, including final and interim tests, papers, etc.

<https://www.coursera.org/learn/international-law-in-action?authMode=login#syllabus>

Logistic support

During lectures and practical sessions Official Coursera Website is used. Students have to acquire needed Internet connection.

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