





5.00 credits

30.0 h

Q2

Teacher(s)	Coppens Philippe ;Culot Henri ;
Language :	French
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve
Main themes	This course consists of an introduction to the specific rules of international economics and international trade: trade (international bodies such as GATT; trade between developed countries; trade between western and eastern countries, etc.), money and finance (IMF, World Bank, etc.), international economic agents (states, transnational companies); investment; analysis of trade relations; international contracts; international disputes. If requested by the Faculty and the Department for economic and social law, the method can be either lecturing or an analysis of cases. The choice of a method is made for a three-year period.
Learning outcomes	
Evaluation methods	The exam is oral and/or written. It verifies whether students have acquired sufficient knowledge and understanding, as well as a capacity for critical analysis of the subject. The students will bring the legal texts (WTO Agreements) with them.
Teaching methods	The method of teaching is not uniform, but its main goal is to facilitate interactions between students and teachers. The course is given in person. The students will have to read some materials in advance (in French and in English) in order to participate in effective class discussions.
Content	The course aims to critically analyze the foundations, modes of operation and substantive law standards of the World Trade Organization (WTO). The first part of the course examines the main economic and philosophical concepts that provide an understanding of the nature, purposes and tensions of international economic law (theory of absolute and comparative advantage and global justice). The second part of the course examines the historical development from the partial failure of the Bretton Woods Agreement (1944), the pragmatic solutions of the multilateral negotiation rounds to the Marrakesh Agreement establishing the WTO (1994) and the current period. It also examines the principles of the WTO Agreements as they relate to economic policy issues. It shows the nature and extent of pragmatic exceptions to these principles (including regional trade agreements). It analyzes substantive law solutions in the Agreements on Trade in Goods and on Trade in Services and the Dispute Settlement Understanding, taking account of WTO case-law. Bilateral and regional trade agreements are also discussed. Finally, drawing mainly on WTO cases relating to GATT Article XX, Part III analyses the complex relationship between international economic law and the environment.
Inline resources	Are available online : - A syllabus (course notes) for the first part of the course - Power point presentations for the second part -Articles of legal scholarship and other documents -The case-law analyzed in class.
Bibliography	Michael J. Trebilcock and Joel Trachtman, <i>Advanced Introduction to International Trade Law</i> , 3rd ed., Edward Elgar, 2025 Peter Van den Bossche and Denise Prevost, <i>Essentials of WTO Law</i> , 2nd ed., Cambridge University Press, 2021
Faculty or entity in charge	BUDR

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)				
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes
Advanced Master in European Law	DREU2MC	5		
Master [120] in Law	DROI2M	5		
Master [120] in Law (shift schedule)	DRHD2M	5		
Advanced Master in Tax Law	DRIF2MC	5		
Master [120] in Law (shift schedule)	DRLN2M	5		