International Environmental Law
2015 Draft Syllabus

Course Information
Name: International Environmental Law
Teaching Institution: Maastricht University
Location: Maastricht, The Netherlands
Dates: 3rd – 24th January 2015
Duration: 3 weeks
Course contact hours: 36 hours of academic classes and seminars plus additional professional sits visits
Pre-requisites: 1 year of university law study

Instructor Information
The course is coordinated by Dr. Marjan Peeters, Professor of Environmental Policy and Law at Maastricht University. She is widely trained in environmental law and teaches since 2001 International, European and national environmental Law at Maastricht University. She has worked in practice (governmental office) for nine years specializing in water and soil protection laws. Currently she specializes in climate protection law.

Course Descriptions and Learning Outcomes
The environment by nature knows no boundaries. While environmental law originally focused on local problems like local air and noise pollution, today we are confronted with severe trans-boundary and global environmental problems like the continuing loss of biodiversity, long-distance air-pollution, and the threat of climate change. The course International Environmental Law deals with core subjects related to the supra-nationalisation of environmental law.

The course will be structured around themes, which are:
- International environmental rule-making, including compliance and enforcement
- International environmental principles
- Human rights and environmental protection
- International and EU climate law, including the choice of the right regulatory instruments to steer citizen & business behaviour
Climate change will be taken as the leading real-world case to be discussed during the course.

The program is designed for students with an interest in becoming future policy and decision makers in government and businesses, working in NGOs in the field of environmental law and sustainable development, consultants, researchers and academics, corporate lawyers, barristers and practitioners.

**Academic classes (36 hours)**

There will be 36 hours of academic classes and seminars across the 3 weeks of the course. Classes will cover the following topics such as:

- Fundamentals of International Environmental Law
- International and European Institutions and Environmental Protection
- European Environmental Law
- International Climate Law
- Environmental Litigation and International Dispute Resolution: Compliance and Enforcement
- Water Resources and Global Energy Law
- Pollution Law
- Environmental Law and Economic Development
- International Law of Sustainable Development

**Professional Visits (approx. 12 hours)**

There will be approximately 12 hours of sites visits and on-site seminars/discussions as part of the program.

Visits are to be confirmed, but will include institution such as:

- Greenpeace International Office
- Netherlands Environment Assessment Agency
- Netherlands Commission for Environmental Assessment
- European Parliament
- European Commission
- Flemish Environmental Agency
- Institute for European Environment Policy
- UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

**Cultural Activities**

The course includes a number of cultural activities, both inside and outside of Maastricht, designed to give participants an appreciation for Dutch culture and attitudes, and the regional context within which the country interacts. The cultural program will include an integration program with local students as well as tours and visits to cities in Maastricht and around the region (e.g. Brussels, Bruges, and Amsterdam).
Learning outcomes
The overall objective of this course is providing a basic understanding of the main characteristics and developments of environmental law in an international perspective. A related specific goal is to provide an understanding of the interrelationship between international and European greenhouse gas regulation.

By the end of the course, students should have knowledge of:

• International rule-making through multilateral environmental agreements, including compliance and enforcement
• The complexities surrounding environmental principles
• The value and shortcomings of current human rights arrangements for environmental protection, including procedural rights with regard to governmental decision-making in environmental matters
• The regulation of greenhouse gases on the international and EU level

Students should also be able to:

• Describe some of the core legal issues relating to climate change
• Summarise the institutions and organisations that have jurisdiction in international and European environmental issues
• Analyse the key environmental issues the European Union is facing today
• Compare the institutions that have jurisdiction over European legal and human rights issues
• Reflect on these institutions strengths and weaknesses
• Compare and contrast cultural differences between Europe and Australia

Teaching Methods
The course is based on the following mix of teaching methods: participatory teaching, short introductory lectures, and student presentations. In addition, excursions to institutions in the field will be organised and guest lecturers will be invited.

Course requirements (assessment)
Students are required to undertake the following assessment (to be confirmed).

End of program test – 40%
Individual presentation – 20%
Final assignment (3000 words) – 40%

The final assignment will be due on Sunday 15 February 2015 at 11.59pm (GMT+1).
Australian universities may choose to request additional assessment from students, such as submitting a reflective journal, in order to approve credit transfer (this is strictly optional).

**Literature**
(To be confirmed)
The main book used during this course is the “Research handbook on International Environmental Law”, edited by Maglosia Fitzmaurice, David M. Ong, Panos Merkouris and published by Edward Elgar in 2010.

**Attendance**
Students are required to attend all lectures, presentations, visits, practical and cultural activities that are scheduled as part of the program.

The attendance rules for this course are specified in the CES Academic Guide 2013-2014. It is the responsibility of the student to carefully read this document and comply with all rules and regulations.

**Class participation**
Students will be required to participate in discussions during lectures, seminars and visits.

**Academic honesty**
Students will be required to comply with Maastricht University’s policies regarding plagiarism and academic integrity.

**Grading**
The course will be assessed against the standardised ECTS grading system (A – F).
Those obtaining passing grades are divided into five subgroups: the best 10% are awarded an A-grade, the next 25% a B-grade, the following 30% a C-grade, the following 25% a D-grade and the final 10% an E-grade.
Those who do not achieve a performance sufficient to allow a passing grade are divided into two subgroups: FX (Fail – some more work required before credit can be awarded) and F (Fail – considerable further work is required).

Students will receive a transcript from Maastricht stating their results. The official transcript will usually be available 4-6 weeks after the conclusion of the final program assessment.

**Available Support Services**
The program is fully supported by Maastricht’s international office and students will have access to both academic and pastoral support. Students will have access to campus computing and library facilities to assist them with completing the program’s required assessment.
Contact Information
For further information regarding this syllabus, please contact the Australian Institute for Mobility Overseas:
info@aimoverseas.com.au
Phone: (02) 99975 7792
Web: www.aimoverseas.com.au

Draft Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Programme</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 3 January</td>
<td>Arrival day, Check-in and grocery store tour and Dutch dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 4 January</td>
<td>Practical city tour</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 5 January</td>
<td>Opening ceremony and introduction (including lunch) and Maastricht excursion part I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 6 January</td>
<td>4 hours of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 7 January</td>
<td>4 hours of classes + Maastricht excursion part II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 January</td>
<td>4 hours of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 9 January</td>
<td>Belgium Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 10 January</td>
<td>Belgium Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 11 January</td>
<td>Belgium Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 12 January</td>
<td>Day off</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 13 January</td>
<td>4 hours of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 14 January</td>
<td>4 hours of classes and Dutch dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 15 January</td>
<td>4 hours of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 16 January</td>
<td>The Netherlands Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 17 January</td>
<td>The Netherlands Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 18 January</td>
<td>The Netherlands Trip</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 19 January</td>
<td>Day off</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 20 January</td>
<td>4 hours of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21 January</td>
<td>4 hours of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 22 January</td>
<td>2 hours of classes (multiple-choice exam)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 23 January</td>
<td>2 hours of classes (preparation for final paper) and closing ceremony</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 24 January</td>
<td>Check out of the Guesthouse</td>
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N.B. Course schedule is subject to change