

- Faculté de droit
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WTO Law (4DR2116)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Master bilingue en droit	Cours: 4 ph	oral: 15 min controle continu: 1	8
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ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps

Objectifs:

- understand the main principles and areas of international Trade Law, in particular the Law of the World Trade Organization (WTO)
- become familiar with essential WTO case-law and be able to evaluate its coherence
- show appreciation of the relationship with other academic fields, including economics and international relations.

Contenu:

In an era of increasing interdependence in international business, the WTO has built a rule-oriented system that aims to facilitate business transactions through the application of legal rules enforced by the strongest third party adjudication system in the history of international law, i.e. the WTO dispute settlement mechanism. This course addresses institutional and substantive aspects of the international trade law architecture. After introducing the underlying economic and political philosophy of free trade and the structure of the WTO, the course offers a comprehensive overview of the core principles relating to trade in goods, services and intellectual property and analyses the major legal disciplines under the WTO. In-depth analysis of case-law acquaints students with border measures, such as tariffs and quotas, but also highlights the negative effects of behind-the-border measures, ranging from technical, sanitary and phytosanitary measures in goods to licensing and qualification requirements in services. Sovereignty, environmental protection, globalization and its impact on protecting societal values are topics that are discussed in class with a view to gaining a better understanding of the real-life areas that trade liberalization may impinge on.

Forme de l'évaluation:

This course is offered to advanced students of law, economics or political science with a good command in English and an interest in international law and relations. It is recommended, but definitely not required that students have already attended the courses on public international and European law. Students are expected to read the allocated material before each class and to come prepared either to make a specific oral presentation or to participate in class discussion. Class participation will be taken into account for the final grade. Continuous evaluation as described in the Annex. All exams are written and open book. Thus, students are allowed to use their materials and notes, and emphasis is placed on the ability to assess and discuss WTO legal provisions and relevant case-law.

Documentation:

The teaching of the course will be based on the following book: Petros C. Mavroidis, George A. Bermann and Mark Wu, *The Law of the WTO, Documents, Cases and Analysis*, American Casebook Series, West, 2010. Copies of the book will be kept on reserve at the Library of the Law Faculty. Additional handouts will be used for topics not covered by the book. Students are welcome to use any other book they deem useful. In this respect, several sources will be proposed in the first class.