

Short note: Syllabus and Teaching Method of International Law Subject
at **Faculty of Law, Universitas Airlangga – Indonesia**
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I. Introduction

International law subject is one of mandatory subject for under graduate students at Faculty of Law Universitas Airlangga like at Faculty of Law in other universities in Indonesia. International law subject has 4 credits semester or twice meeting classes in a week. Since this subject is mandatory which every law student should take this subject, we usually have three classes every semester with 60 students in each class. This subject is offered every semester instead of every year like decades ago. This means, when a student failed, she or he can take this subject directly in the next semester, not need to wait a year to take again this subject. The total number of lecturers for international law subject is 12 lecturers.

II. The class meeting schedule

For three classes that we have in every semester, we have a schedule for class meetings every semester, so every lecturer has a guidance of every topic for the class (See Table 1). In this respect, every class will have similar topic at the same time that delivered by different lecturers. Lecturers should stick on the topic that provided in the schedule class meeting that usually prepared by a designated lecturer. The guidance only consists of general topic without detailed explanations or case studies. In this context, therefore, the class's lecturers can have their own styles, by creatively modifying or improvising the method when they deliver the lecture.

III. The assessment

The assessment of this subject comprises of some components, namely, exams (mid-term and final exam), quiz or mini exam, presentation. The schedule of the class meetings is similar for three classes as well as the topics of the exam, mid-term and final exam. The lecturers all together design the exams through discussions and the topic of exam is usually covered all the topics that already discussed in class or only one or two topics chosen that related to recent issues or up-to-date international law regulation at the time when the exam was held. Basically, the type of questions of the exam is a mixture between explanatory and analytical answers. The type of exams has a similar pattern every semester that for mid-term exam usually closed book as the students only answer exam questions which only refresh, recall, and/or describe the international law concepts. The mid-term exam is quite easy because the topic before mid-term only consist of introductory concept, such as what is international law, what are differences between international law and municipal or national law and their relationship, the sources of international law, the subject of international law, history of international law. For the final exam, the type of exam usually open book exam. In this stage, students will be given a case study, very often a fictitious case study and related to the recent issues that just happened.

IV. Method of teaching

Teaching method that has been used in this subject are lecturing, class discussion, and group presentation. At the first meeting, when the lecturers and students meet at the first time, the lecturers give the syllabus and the class meeting schedule. It can be said that the first meeting is ‘the contractual’ between lecturers and students that they agreed on the types of assessment and the tolerated time when a student who came late can still enter the class and when the class can begin, in general lecturers and students agreed on ‘a 15 minute’ time late. This means, a student still can get into class if he or she is late under 15 minutes, and this also apply for the lecturers. In the beginning period of the class meeting, at least until the fourth meeting, the teaching method that has been used is lecturing. It mainly, one way approach from lecturers. The students mostly listening throughout the class meetings. This is happened because at this first part of the class, the students are adapted with the styles of the lecturer and the subject. It should bear in mind that majority students, in the previous semester, they already have taken civil law and criminal law subjects so they accustomed to with the civil and criminal law concepts, that why it is a little bit hard to deliver lecture of international law concepts. Another problem is related to preparedness of the students in the class to acquire international law concept as a new and different from civil law or criminal law concepts. This is because majority students did not read the reading materials and the suggested reference books before class. As civil law system country, the lecturers tend to teach with civil law system approach, mainly discussed normative concept, the treaties, international rule of law, regulations and very rare exercise case studies.

V. Topics of the class meetings

Table 1 syllabus of International law subject (topics)

No.	Topics
1.	Introduction; syllabus, an overview of the subject and the class ‘rule’
2.	- Scope, definition and terminology of international law - Relevance and function of International Law
3.	History of international law
4.	- International community and International law and their relationship - Aims and purposes of IL
5.	International and national application
6.	International law and municipal law
7.	The Source of International law
8.	Subject of International law
9.	Sovereignty
10.	Jurisdiction
11.	Recognition
12.	State Responsibility

13.	Human Rights
14.	Succession
15	International Dispute Resolution
16.	Class discussions 4x

VI. References.

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VII. Assessment

Assessment consist of four components:

1. Mid-term exam (35%)
2. Final exam (45%)
3. Quiz (10 %)
4. Group discussion/case studies (10%)

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