

# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Methods, Theories and Practices in Environmental Law**  
**Miljörättsliga metoder, teori och praktik**

**15.0 Higher Education  
Credits**  
**15.0 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	JU710M
<b>Valid from:</b>	Spring 2022
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2020-10-21
<b>Department</b>	Department of Law
<b>Main field:</b>	Environmental Law
<b>Specialisation:</b>	A1F - Second cycle, has second-cycle course/s as entry requirements

## Decision

Approved by the Education Committee of the Faculty of Law on 3 June 2020.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Admission to the course requires that the student is admitted to the Master's Programme in Environmental Law (60 credits) at Stockholm University, has satisfactorily completed the programme's first course Transboundary Environmental Law, as well as the mandatory elements of the course Cross-cutting Issues in Environmental Law.

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
0100	Methods, Theories and Practices in Environmental Law	15

## Course content

The course deals with theoretical, methodological and practical issues at an advanced level. The course includes seminars, written assignments, and a comprehensive mock negotiation where course participants negotiate a document that amounts to an international regulatory framework or similar regarding a current environmental issue.

In parallel with the course, students take the course Master Thesis in Environmental Law, during which they carry out their final independent degree thesis for the programme. The aim is that students benefit from the knowledge, skills etc. developed during this course while writing their thesis.

## Learning outcomes

**Knowledge and Understanding**

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- demonstrate in-depth insights into current environmental law research and development work and
- demonstrate in-depth methodological and theoretical knowledge of environmental law, especially in transboundary contexts,
- demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of the practice of environmental law in transboundary contexts.

**Skills and Abilities**

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- demonstrate an in-depth ability to integrate the knowledge in environmental law and apply it in complex concrete situations,
- demonstrate in-depth ability to identify and define issues of environmental law and apply these to complex concrete environmental law situations,
- demonstrate an in-depth ability to clearly describe, discuss and argue based on acquired conclusions and knowledge, both orally and in writing, as well as in dialogue with different groups, and
- demonstrate an in-depth ability to participate in research and development work and other qualified activities.

#### Judgement and Approach

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- demonstrate an in-depth ability to make assessments from the viewpoint of environmental law with reference to scientific, social and ethical aspects, and
- demonstrate in-depth insights into the possibilities and limitations of science, with respect to international negotiations.

#### Education

The course is worth 15 credits and is carried out over 20 weeks part-time (50%). Instruction, which is mandatory, consists of seminars and a mock negotiation.

The language of instruction is English.

#### Forms of examination

The course is examined through active attendance at the seminars, the writing and oral presentation of three essays and through participation in the mock negotiation.

The essays amounts to 75% of the total points for examination in the course.

The mock negotiation is mandatory and assessed with either Pass (G) or Fail (U), but does not give any points.

Active attendance in at least 80% of the seminars amounts to 25% of the total points for examination in the course. Active attendance means that students have prepared the assignments and are ready to participate in discussions about them.

If the essays are submitted after the deadline, only a maximum of half of the available points can be awarded on these specific examinations.

The course director may grant a general exemption from the attendance requirement according to the regulations approved by the Faculty of Law's Education Committee. The scope of the attendance requirement is specified in the course description. An exemption can also be granted if the student has a lawful excuse, in which case the student should complete a pedagogically equivalent assignment as compensation for their absence. Exemption from attendance at the seminars, where the own memoranda are presented, and from the mock negotiation will not be granted.

Assessment criteria for the written and oral assignments:

- Subject and problem formulation
- Factual knowledge and insight into the subject
- Presentation
- Material and method
- Analysis and argumentation including independence of thought
- Conclusions, sources and formalities
- Language
- Oral presentation and discussion at the seminar

Assessment criteria for the oral examinations (mock negotiation):

- Insight into the current scenario and assigned role
- Ability to formulate problems
- Ability to independently and systematically argue, based on given conditions.
- Ability to adapt argumentation to changing circumstances
- Ability to reflect on ongoing discussions

The grading in the course is based on the essays and participation in the seminars. The minimum score required on each examined course moment in order to pass the entire course, together with the maximum

scores achievable, are stated in the course description. The final grade in the course is based on the total amount of points achieved on each course moment. Other assessment tasks are assessed using the grades Pass (G) or Fail (U).

Grading criteria and permitted aids during the examination are specified in the course description.

The language of examination is English.

Students who receive a failing grade on a regular examination will have the opportunity to retake the examination. Students who have received a passing grade on an examination may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade. A student who has failed the same examination twice is entitled to have another examiner appointed, unless there are special reasons to the contrary.

To pass the course, all of the course's learning outcomes must be met.

The final grade in the course is set using the following seven-point scale: The final grade in the course is set using the following seven-point scale: A (Excellent), B (Very Good), C (Good), D (Satisfactory) and E (Adequate). Failing grades are Fx (Inadequate) or F (Totally Inadequate).

A student with a certificate of special pedagogical support issued by Stockholm University has the right to alternative/accommodated forms of examination in accordance with the certificate.

### **Misc**

Completed course requirements are valid for two years. This also applies to students who drop the course during the early course withdrawal period.

The course requirements in effect at the time of the student's first registration on the course may be completed within two years. After two years, the course requirements included in the most recently revised syllabus will apply.

Entry into force

These provisions will apply as of 18 January 2021.

### **Required reading**

The course literature will be determined by the head of department. Please refer to the course website and the course description for information about the required reading. The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.