



STUDY GUIDE

LAW AND PRACTICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Organised by

[Università di Catania]





1. IDENTIFYING DATA.	
• Course Name.	<i>Law and Practice of the United Nations</i>
• Coordinating University.	<i>Università di Catania</i>
• Partner Universities Involved.	---
• Course Field(s).	<i>International Law</i>
• Related Study Programme.	<i>Law Degree LM c.u. LMG 01 GIURISPRUDENZA (Five Years course)</i>
• ISCED Code.	...
• SDG.	<i>ALL SDGs</i>
• Study Level.	<i>The course of the optional activities in the framework of the Law Degree course</i>

• Number of ECTS credits allocated.	4
• Mode of Delivery.	<i>Online (intended for EUNICE)</i>
• Language of Instruction.	<i>English</i>
• Course Dates.	<i>from 01/10/2024 to 18/01/2025</i>
• Schedule of the course.	<i>FIRST semester</i>
• Key Words.	<i>United Nations, General Assembly, Security Council, Veto Power, Secretary General, resolutions, use of force, UN missions, Agenda 2030, SDGs</i>
• Catchy Phrase.	<i>'The United Nations was not created in order to bring us to heaven, but in order to save us from hell' Dag Hammarskjöld (Secretary General of the UN 1953-1961)</i>

• Prerequisites and co-requisites.	<i>Basic knowledge of International Law</i>
• Number of EUNICE students that can attend the Course.	<i>unrestricted number</i>
• Course inscription procedure(s).	----

2. CONTACT DETAILS.	
• Department.	<i>Dipartimento di Giurisprudenza – Siciliae Studium Generale University of Catania</i>
• Name of Lecturer.	<i>Salvatore Zappalà</i>



• E-mail.	<i>salvatore.zappala@unict.it</i>
• Other Lecturers.	-----

3. COURSE CONTENT.

The course will deal with the activities of the United Nations. In particular it will emphasize the respective roles of the UN General Assembly and of the Security Council.

4. LEARNING OUTCOMES.

The course aims to provide students with an initial knowledge of the way in which the United Nations works, the main activities of its principal political organs and the resolutions they adopt. The course also aims to enhance:

Knowledge and understanding.

Critical understanding of the way the main political organs in the UN system (the General Assembly and the Security Council) operate.

Applying knowledge and understanding

Ability to identify the essential elements of a problem and address it in terms of balanced and mutually acceptable solutions.

Ability to use analogy as a tool to apply known solutions to new problems (problem solving).

Ability to draft and negotiate legal/political texts.

Making judgements

Ability to convey own interpretations of UN resolutions and discussing them with others.

Communication skills.

Ability to discuss about UN resolutions.

Learning skills.

Ability to understand, draft and negotiate UN texts.

5. OBJECTIVES.

The course aims at providing the following objectives:

- to apply fundamental notions of UN law (the Charter and the Rules of procedure);
- to apply fundamental notions of International Organization law;
- to apply the acquired skills for drafting UN resolutions and for negotiating them.

6. COURSE ORGANISATION.



UNITS	
1.	<i>The UN Charter – The Main Political Organs</i>
2.	<i>The UN General Assembly</i>
3.	<i>The UN Security Council</i>
4.	<i>The Relationship between the General Assembly and the Security Council</i>
5.	<i>Drafting and Negotiating a UN GA or SC resolution</i>
LEARNING RESOURCES AND TOOLS.	
<i>Lectures and Interactive work in groups</i>	
PLANNED LEARNING ACTIVITIES AND TEACHING METHODS.	
<i>The first half of the course relies on a descriptive approach based on lectures; the second half will take the form of an interactive dialogue on specific draft resolutions which the students will also negotiate</i>	

7. ASSESSMENT METHODS, CRITERIA AND PERIOD.
<i>At the end of the course there is a written exam in the form of a position paper on a specific issue which will be assigned.</i>
OBSERVATIONS.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND TEACHING MATERIALS.
UN Charter Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly Provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council Specific resolutions and any reading materials will be provided by the professor at the beginning of the Course

