

Course Descriptions None 2024-2025

Course Title	Sustainability, Law and the Environment																
Course Code	SSP2052																
ECTS Credits	5,0																
Assessment	Whole/Half Grades																
Period	<table><thead><tr><th>Period</th><th>Start</th><th>End</th><th>Mon</th><th>Tue</th><th>Wed</th><th>Thu</th><th>Fri</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>4</td><td>3-2-2025</td><td>30-3-2025</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>	Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	4	3-2-2025	30-3-2025					
Period	Start	End	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri										
4	3-2-2025	30-3-2025															
Level	Introductory/Intermediate																
Coordinator	Christian Scholl For more information: christian.scholl@maastrichtuniversity.nl																
Language of instruction	English																
Goals	<p>After studying the course the students should be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">* Explain the role of international and global environmental law towards achieving environmental protection* Explain how the concept of sustainable development impacts legal developments* Explain the core characteristic of regulation and liability in view of steering economic activities* Explain the relevance of procedural rights for environmental policies* Explain, based on literature and case law discussed during this course, how climate science may play a role in the courtroom* Develop a well-motivated opinion on core topics and concepts discussed during the course																
Description	<p>Politics, national governments, and legal approaches play a key role in the contemporary sustainability debate. This course provides a combined perspective on the role of environmental law, the state and politics and their interaction in shaping sustainable development. The course provides an understanding of the steering role of the state in a historical context, the functioning of national governments in liberal democracies and other political regimes, and how these contexts affect sustainability policies and laws differently. Thereby, different regulatory and liability approaches are introduced in focusing on the steering of economic activities in a more sustainable direction. The course also examines the various roles of state and non-state actors in international politics and rulemaking, and discusses the inherent prospects and limitations of different legal approaches to steer sustainable development. Unpacking the power imbalances between these actors and the very political nature of sustainable development efforts, the course offers a critical perspective on the tensions between nation states, civil society and business in (inter)national negotiations.</p>																
Literature	<p>An electronic reference list is available through Key Links. In addition, students may have to download some additional information as indicated in the descriptions of the lectures and tutorials provided through Canvas.</p>																
Prerequisites	<p>This course is in transition. See the Master Education and Examination Regulations for more information.</p> <p>The following rule applies to master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society students who started the programme prior to academic year 2023-2024. TRANSITIONAL REGULATION (SSP2052): In 2024-2025 students are allowed to repeat the examination and resit.</p>																
Keywords	<ul style="list-style-type: none">* International and global environmental law* Regulatory approaches, including economic instruments* Liability of economic operators, including its transnational dimension* Environmental Rights, including environmental procedural rights, for victims and NGO's																
Teaching methods	Lecture / Papers																
Assessment methods	Written Exam / Computer test / Presentation																
Evaluation in previous academic year	<p>For the complete evaluation of this course please click http://iwio-sbe.maastrichtuniversity.nl/rapporten.asp?referrer=codeUM</p>																
This course belongs to the following programme / specialisation	<table><tr><td>Master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society</td><td>Transitional Regulation</td></tr></table>	Master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society	Transitional Regulation														
Master Sustainability Science, Policy and Society	Transitional Regulation																