

Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University
Department of History of State and Law of Ukraine and Foreign Countries

PROGRAMME
OF ACADEMIC DISCIPLINE
“COUNTRY STUDIES”

Level of higher education – the first (bachelor's) level

Degree of higher education – bachelor

Field of knowledge – 29 "International Relations"

Speciality – 293 "International Law"

Educational programme/Specialization – "International Law"

Discipline status – compulsory

Recruitment year – 2021

Kharkiv 2021

Programme of the discipline "Country Studies" for students of the first (bachelor's) level of higher education in the field of knowledge 29 "International Relations" of the speciality 293 "International Law" of the specialization "International Law" of the Faculty of International Law. Kharkiv: Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University , 2021. 28 p.

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1. Introduction

“Country studies” is a compulsory discipline aiming to teach students to comprehend geographical, political, social, demographic realities, the essence and consequences of complex processes taking place in modern world, providing knowledge about the basic laws of origin and development of the world political and economic systems in order to predict their further evolution.

“Country studies” synthesises, systematizes and summarizes data on the political, economic, social, cultural spheres of life of society, the world as a whole, individual regions, states and countries.

“Country studies” includes two parts: theoretical and practical. The theoretical part includes sections on general ethnography and ethnographic analysis. The practical part is devoted to the ethnographic characteristics of particular countries in Europe, Asia, America, Africa, Australia. They form an idea of the methodological and theoretical foundations of geography, global civilizational structures and civilizational approach, world system structure and world system approach, global interpretations of modernity, world economy as a system, sovereign state and non-state entities in the world system, political map of the world and its changes, basics geopolitics and political geography, geography of political parties, geospace and territory, geopolitical position of the country, natural conditions and natural resource potential of the country, ethnographic aspects of population and demography, culture, religion, art, economic sphere, political sphere, etc.

1.1. *The aim* of the academic discipline is the formation of a holistic system of professional knowledge, skills, and other competencies in a specific segment of understanding historical, geographical, political, social, demographic realities, essence and consequences of complex processes taking place in the modern world, which involves cognition and use of knowledge about the basic

laws of origin and development of the world, political and economic systems in order to predict their further evolution.

The main tasks of the discipline are:

- formation of an in-depth system of theoretical knowledge (concepts) on socio-economic, historical, political, territorial, ethnogeographic, and cultural systems of various regions and countries of the world;

- mastering scientific and theoretical approaches to: the practical use of knowledge about natural conditions and resources, the environmental situation all over the world; features of the most important stages of historical development, the characteristics of the political system and its elements; the level of economic development in general and its leading industries;

- understanding the main directions of foreign policy, participation in international organizations, their aims, the role in foreign economic relations;

- providing comprehension of the characteristics of each country's geopolitical and geo-economic situation in the world and the region; the degree of favorable natural conditions for life of the population, the essence of environmental problems in a particular country; the main features of economic development, the essence of economic problems, prospects for economic development;

- mastering comprehension of the main innovative practices to solve the topical problems of political, social, economic and cultural development of particular countries and regions, political and geographical aspects of global problems of mankind via retrospective analysis

- improving knowledge on the main characteristics of political systems, their comparative analysis, identification of domestic political problems and ways of their solution, analysis of foreign policy of states at the global and regional levels, participation in the activities of international organizations; identification of characteristic features of political, economic, cultural ties of Ukraine with the states under study.

1.2. Status of the discipline in the structure of the educational programme:
compulsory

1.3. **Pre-requisites:** "Theory of State and Law", "Economic Theory", "Logic", "Foreign Language", "Ukrainian Culture".

1.4. **Co-requisites:** "Socio-Political Studies", "Legal Systems of Modernity", "History of International Law", "Philosophy".

1.5. **Post-requisites:** "Theory of International Relations", "Fundamentals of Geopolitics", "Law of International Organizations", "History of European Integration".

1.6. **Teaching language:** English.

1.7. The List of General and Special Competencies

1.7.1. General competencies:

GC - 1. Ability to think abstractly, to conduct analysis and synthesis.

GC - 2. Ability to apply knowledge in professional activities in standard and extraordinary situations.

GC - 5. Ability to formulate and express own opinion competently and accurately, to substantiate it duly.

GC - 6. Skills to collect and analyse the information from national and international sources.

GC - 7. Skills to use the information technology and databases.

GC - 8. Ability to be critical and self-critical.

GC - 12. Ability to determine the interests and motives of others.

GC - 13. Ability to self-education and lifelong learning.

GC - 15. Ability to implement knowledge in subject-practical activities

1.7.2. Special competencies:

SC -2. Ability to critically comprehend the basic theories, principles and concepts while applying International Law.

SC - 5. Ability to define the concept of Public International Law, knowledge of its features in comparison with the national law and Private International Law.

SC - 6. Ability to define the concept of the subject of International Law, as well as the features of international legal personalities of certain categories of subjects of international law.

SC - 9. Ability to identify problems and work in the main areas of interaction of international and national law.

SC - 11. Ability to promote the idea of the international justice in the international legal community of states.

SC - 13. Knowledge and understanding of the history, nature and legal status of the European Union.

SC - 14. Understanding the sources of European Union law and knowledge of the key decisions of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

SC - 15. Ability to characterize Ukraine's relations with the European Union, to analyze the problems of adaptation of national legislation of Ukraine to the requirements of European Union law.

SC - 16. Ability to analyse the activities of institutional and conventional bodies and mechanisms for the protection of human rights in accordance with the procedure established by the international legislation.

SC - 18. Ability to analyse the mechanisms for maintaining international peace and security at the universal and regional levels.

SC - 23. Ability to provide legal opinions and advice on International Law, to develop an international legal position in the interests of the state.

1.8. The list of learning outcomes

PLO - 3. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of fundamentals of International Law.

PLO - 7. Characterize the evolution and current state of the subjects of International Law, predict further widening of the International law subjects' range.

PLO - 13. Demonstrate knowledge of the theory and practice of international human rights and freedoms.

PLO - 17. Interpret the mechanisms of international legal cooperation of the European Union with third countries, including Ukraine.

PLO - 23. Demonstrate the ability to work in an international legal context.

The explication of general and special competencies is defined in the map of subject competencies

1.9. Programme of the discipline.

Module 1. Theoretical foundations of Country (regional) Studies

Module 2. Practical aspects of the Country Studies

2. Description of the discipline (educational unit)

Name of indicators	Field of knowledge educational level	Didactic structure of the discipline
		full-time education
Credits- 4	Field of knowledge - 29	compulsory
Modules- 2	«International Relations »	year of study: 2021
		Semester – 1
Hours - 120	Speciality -	Lectures
Weekly hours for full-		24 hours

time study: Classroom studies - 4	293 «International Law»	Practical classes
		26 hours
	Educational level - the first (bachelor's)	Individual student work
		56 hours
		Types of control: Ongoing assessment Summative assessment (exam)

3. The scope and structure of the discipline

Module 1. Theoretical Foundations of Country (Regional) Studies

Introduction. Sources of Country Studies, regional and area studies. Globalization. Its origin, reasons, impact. Classification of countries. Differences between countries. The UN Classification. General characteristics of European countries, its historical overview. Global South and Global North. Inequality, historical reasons. The UK. Magna Carta. The British Empire. Colonial impact. The French Republic. The main historical acts of the European countries (the UK, France, Italy, Germany, Spain, Belgium Scandinavian countries, etc.). Natural conditions and natural resource potential of the countries. The structure of the European Union. Historical retrospective of European integration, its perspectives. The USA, the Bill of Rights, changes in American society. Proxies and hybrid wars. Creation of arrangement procedure and exercise of state power. Historical influence on modern legal traditions.

Module 2. Practical Aspects of Country Studies.

World and Law in the Interbellum, project “Different Wars”. The Triple Entente. The Triple Alliance. Geographic peculiarities of regions. Interventions. Humanitarian Intervention. Cold War. The Korean War. The Vietnam War. The Soviet–Afghan War Suffrage, forms of exclusion. General characteristics of African countries. General characteristics of countries of the Latin America. General characteristics of Asian countries.

Gallup Poll, analyzing its results.

STRATAGEM project. Group Projects.

4. Resource support of the discipline

4.1. Organizational forms of the educational process and types of educational classes

- organizational forms of educational process: training sessions; individual work; practical training; control measures;

- types of training sessions: lectures, practical classes, individual classes, tutorials.

4.2. Students' individual work

Students' individual work is carried out in the following forms:

- elaboration of new scientific and educational literature, generalization of practice, preparation for practical classes;

- work on cases related to Country studies (international tribunals, formation of international organizations and their activities, landmark cases)

- performance of practical tasks, self-testing;

- essay writing;

- summarizing scientific articles and reviewing literature;

- preparation of abstracts for scientific and practical conferences;

- other types of work subject to the approval of the tutor(supervisor).

Individual work of students comprises studying additional educational, scientific literature, archival materials, studying judicial practice, getting acquainted with international and national regulations and statutes on subjects of the course. This type of work is aimed at formation of subject competencies and professional knowledge, as well as ability to self-education, development of independent behavior, engagement and responsibility of students.

4.3. Educational technologies and teaching methods

The teaching of the discipline is carried out with the application of student-centered learning and problem-based learning technologies (problem-based teaching), as well as teaching methods: panel discussion, case studies, etc.

5. Forms of pedagogical control, means and criteria of assessment of learning outcomes

The assessment of results of studying the discipline “Country Studies” involves *the ongoing assessment* and *the summative assessment*. To objectively assess the learning outcomes of students mastering the discipline "Country Studies" the department introduced criteria for assessing knowledge and skills of students, which allow to differentiate the results of academic activities of students depending on their ability to reproduce basic knowledge of the course, demonstration of students' analytical skills, ability to justify their position with reference to historical and modern facts and legal sources, ability to generalization and creative (scientific) understanding of events and phenomena of Country Studies.

Ongoing assessment of students' knowledge includes:

- quality monitoring of students' learning and their engagement during practical classes by tracking and evaluating their answers (oral, written survey, discussion), work in interactive teams, participation in case solution, etc. *The ongoing assessment* aims to measure the student's progress in the study of current material and determine the level of its acquisition. During a practical class a student can get a grade ranging from 0 to 2 points (the total number of practical classes is 13, therefore the maximum number of points is 26 points).

- quality control of students' mastering the program material of the academic discipline, which is carried out at the end of the modules in the form of a personal express survey/project implementation/test assessment. The maximum number of points per one test/project is 5 points (therefore the maximum number of points is 10 points).

During the semester, students perform individual work (preparation of presentations, abstracts for conferences, etc.). The maximum number of points for independent individual work is 4 points.

The form of *the summative assessment* in the discipline is an examination. The minimum number of points for the general course is 60.

5.1. Points distribution between the organizational forms of the educational process

Assessment of student learning outcomes within ongoing assessment is carried out by testing, assessment of students' oral responses during practical classes, as well as research work or creative activities, performed by students individually.

Students' engagement and learning during practical classes: 11- 26 p;

performance of research work or creative activities: - 0 – 4 p.

exam - 0/35/40/45/50/55/60 p.

Assessment of research work or creative activities may include:

- performance of an essay on a topic proposed by the tutor (supervisor): 0-4 points.

The test score consists of:

- points for taking tests on the portal neik.nlu.edu.ua (each test of the first and the second modules consists of 25 questions with 4 answer options; each correct answer is worth 0.2 point.).

5.2. Criteria for learning outcomes evaluating

	Number of points	Criteria
Ongoing assessment	Max 2	Excellent mastering of the topic with some possible insignificant mistakes, active participation
	1.5	Good mastering of the topic, but there are some mistakes, active participation

	1	Satisfactory level of the topic mastering with a significant number of mistakes
	Min 0	Unsatisfactory level of the topic mastering. Passive participation

5.3. Skills Rating Scale: National and ECTS

ECTS grade	Explanation	National grade	100-points grade of the ECTS at the NLU
A	Excellent – excellent performance, with only a few mistakes	Pass	90 – 100
B	Very good – average level of work with some mistakes	Pass	80 – 89
C	Good – correct work with minor mistakes	Pass	75 – 79
D	Satisfactory – not bad, but with many mistakes	Pass	70 – 74
E	Enough – the performance satisfies the minimum criteria	Pass	60 – 69
FX	Unsatisfactory – with the possibility of re-examination	Fail	35 – 59
F	Unsatisfactory – with compulsory re-study of subject	Fail	0 – 34

6. Information support of the discipline

Basic literature

1. Лизогуб В.А. Країнознавство: підручник - Харків: Право, 2019. - 384 с.
2. Лизогуб В. А. Країнознавство [Текст] : навч. посіб. / В. А. Лизогуб; НЮУ ім. Я. Мудрого. - Харків : Право, 2014. - 624 с.
3. Казак Р. Навчальна дисципліна «Історія права» на п'ятьох континентах: Європа, Азія, Північна Америка, Південна Америка, Австралія Актуальні проблеми викладання історико-правових дисциплін в системі вищої юридичної освіти України і зарубіжних країн: матеріали Всеукраїнської наук. конф. (м. Львів, 19 жовтня 2017 р.). – Львів, 2017. – Вип. 1. – с. 59 – 64
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9. Грицак Ю.П. Страноведение. Часть 1: ведущие страны мира. Учебное пособие для экономических и географических специальностей. – Харьков: ХНУ им. В.Н. Каразина, 2000. – 64 с.
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11. Гольцов А. Г., Геополітика і політична географія [Текст]. : підручник / А. Г. Гольцов. - К. : Центр учб. л-ри, 2012. - 416 с.
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Additional resources:

1. <http://www.europa.eu.com/> - the EU Web-page.
2. <http://www.isi.gov.uk/> - the EU and Council of Europe materials.

3. Scientific library of Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University – <http://library.nlu.edu.ua/>
4. League of Nations Treaty Series (1919- 1944) - <http://www.worldlii.org/int/other/treaties/LNTSer/>
5. <https://www.loc.gov/collections/country-studies/> - Library of Congress - set of the Country Studies "a description and analysis of the historical setting and the social, economic, political, and national security systems and institutions of countries throughout the world."
6. <http://countrystudies.us/> – the on-line versions of books previously published in hard copy by the Federal Research Division of the Library of Congress as part of the Country Studies/Area Handbook Series sponsored by the U.S. Department of the Army between 1986 and 1998.
7. <https://www.theodora.com/wfb/> - Information from the CIA World Fact Book.
8. <https://gem-report-2017.unesco.org/en/country-case-studies/> - Global Education Monitoring Report, UNESCO
9. <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/4392> - Open Knowledge Repository – World Bank Country Studies
10. <http://www.mfa.gov.ua/> - website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ukraine (information on embassies, consulates, permanent missions and missions of Ukraine abroad, recognized states Ukraine and with which our state maintains diplomatic relations).
11. <http://www.intl-crisis-group.org> - сайт Міжнародної групи аналізу конфліктів.
12. <http://www.washingtonpost.com> - web-page of the Washington Post

SEEMC

Standardized electronic educational and methodical complex of Department of History of State and Law of Ukraine and Foreign Countries

<http://library.nlu.edu.ua/>.

Material and technical support of the discipline

Open access to online resources of Oxford University Press, to Information and Legal Systems LEAGUE: LAW (GRAND System and Judicial Decisions Analysis System VERDICTUM).

Access is possible from the hall of legal information of the Educational and Library Complex (84-A Pushkinska Street, 3rd floor).