



APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2013/2014

NSA 2511 International Maritime Law

Programme

Bachelor of Business Administration (3. year), Bachelor of Shipping Management (3. year), Exchange Program

Responsible for the course

Cathrine Bjune

Department

Department of Accounting - Auditing and Law

Term

According to study plan

ECTS Credits

7,5

Language of instruction

English

Introduction

The course gives a thorough introduction to International Maritime Law and commonly used contract in shipping. The students will learn about the national and international framework of shipping, and how conventions and standard contracts are made and developed. The students learn the importance of jurisdiction and applicable law clauses in contracts, as well as how contracts are negotiated, entered into and executed. The course covers laws and contracts used for deployment and chartering of vessels, transportation of cargo and passengers, salvage and other short and long term contracts. Mandatory and non-mandatory rules relating to shipowners' and charterers' liabilities is covered, together with the limitation rules applicable. The course covers liability for environmental damages, salvage, cargo liability, collision, passenger liabilities and the importance of flag state and port state laws and regulations.

Learning outcome

Acquired knowledge

The students will acquire an understanding of the rules relating to the maritime industry and shipping, including

- The national and international legal framework of shipping
- The impact of environmental considerations
- Standard contracts commonly used in relation to the ship and cargoes
- Maritime laws and international conventions
- The importance of ship registration
- Shipowners' liabilities in contract and in tort
- Oil and bunkers pollution
- Shipowners right to limit liabilities
- Salvage and collision liabilities

Acquired skills

The course will enable the students to identify and use the laws and regulations in order to:

- Identify and solve common legal problems related to shipping
- Understand the importance of jurisdiction and choice of law rules
- Identify the shipowners legal liabilities in contract and in tort
- Identify the liable party in a dispute
- Decide on relevant laws applicable to a dispute involving a shipowner and or carrier
- Solve practical cases of a maritime nature
- Interpret commonly used standard contracts such as Bills of Ladings, Charter Parties and contracts used for the sale and purchase of ships

Reflection

The students will learn the complex legal nature of international shipping, and the laws and contracts used internationally. They will understand why maritime law is considered to be international, and why international rules are important to world trade. The students will be able to reflect on practical cases of a marine nature, and to solve them using relevant laws. They will get an understanding of why we have limitation rules, and how these are applied to individual claims and disputes. The students will be able to understand and reflect on the importance of common international rules and regulations as a tool for limiting damage to the environment and for increasing the safety of ships.

Prerequisites

None

Compulsory reading

Books:

Falkanger, Thor, Hans Jacob Bull, Lasse Brautaset. 2011. Scandinavian maritime law : the Norwegian perspective. 3rd ed. Universitetsforlaget. Chapters. 1,2,3,6,8,9,10,11,13,14,18,19. (Norwegian edition: "Innføring i sjørett")

Recommended reading**Books:**

Branch, Alan E. 2007. Elements of shipping. 8th ed. Routledge

Course outline

- International Maritime Law - introduction and terminology
- The Norwegian Maritime Code
- National laws and international conventions
- Ship registration and the importance of the flag
- Charterparties and Bills of Ladings
- Shipowners liabilities in contract and tort
- Carriers liability to cargo
- Carriers liability to passengers
- Limitation rules
- Maritime liens
- Salvage rules
- Collision rules
- Liability for oil and bunkers pollution
- Case work

Computer-based tools

None

Learning process and workload

The course is conducted through a total of 45 hours of lectures, field trips and casework.

As a part of lectures assignments will be placed on It's learning. Students are expected to be prepared for class by working with the assignments, as the lecturer will review these assignments in class. Feedback will also consist of the students comparing their solutions with the one that is explained by the lecturer.

Recommended workload in hours

Activity	Hours
Participation at lectures	38
Participation at assignment reviews by lecturer	7
Preparations for lectures (approx. 1.5 hours per hour of lectures or assignment reviews by lecturer)	68
Work on mandatory mini-exercises (approx. 1 hour per mini-exercise)	14
Preparation for exams	73
Total recommended time use	200

Use of hours

38 hours of lectures

7 hours of case reviews by lecturer

45 hours total

Examination

A three-hour individual written examination concludes the course.

Examination code(s)

NSA 25111 - Written exam, counts 100% to obtain final grade in NSA 2511 International Maritime Law, 7.5 credits.

Examination support materials

The Norwegian Maritime Code in norwegian or English version and BI-approved exam calculator, TEXAS INSTRUMENTS BA II Plus™

Support materials at written examinations are explained under exam information in our web-based Student Handbook. Please note use of calculator. <http://www.bi.no/studiehandbok/hjelpemidler>

Re-sit examination

At the next ordinary examination.

Additional information