



LAW 852

Trade and Environment Law

S1 Day 2016

Dept of Law

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Shawkat Alam

shawkat.alam@mq.edu.au

Contact via shawkat.alam@mq.edu.au

W3A 440

Thurs 12-1pm (weeks 2-7, 8-13)

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to MEnvLaw or PGCertEnvLaw or PGDipEnvLaw or MIntEnvLaw or PGCertIntEnvLaw or PGDipIntEnvLaw or MIntTrdeComLaw or PGCertIntTrdeComLaw or PGDipIntTrdeComLaw or MIntRelMIntTrdeComLaw or LLM or MIntLawGovPP or MSocEntre or PGCertSocEntre or GradDipIntRel or MPPP or GradDipPP or 42cp in LAW or LAWS units at 400 or 500 level or (admission to JD and 32cp in LAW or LAWS units at 800 level)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines the ways in which trade and environment issues are addressed in a variety of international legal instruments, ranging from, the United Nations through to global and regional free trade agreements. It provides an overview of international institutions, policies and instruments such as the UN, GATT, the WTO, NAFTA, the World Bank and the IMF as they relate to environmental issues. It also, where appropriate, compares the achievements of one legal instrument with those of others in the area of trade and the environment. It particularly focuses on the interests and concerns of developing countries on this pressing issue.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Explain and critique linkages between international environmental law and international

trade law

Critique key institutions and actors through which international environmental law and international trade law interact

Explain and critically assess how law, politics and the self-interest of nation states play a critical role in the inter-relationship of trade and environmental protection

Evaluate the relationship between trade related economic growth and the environmental impacts in the pursuit for sustainable development, especially as related to the interests of developing countries

Construct an enquiring, critical and creative approach to the existing debates and tensions surrounding the trade-environment nexus.

Assess where the relationship between international environmental law and international trade law can be expected to develop in the future, especially having regard to the objectives of sustainable development and making recommendations for policy development and institutional reform

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Synopsis	15%	30 March 2016 10am
Assignment	35%	4 May 2016 10am
Research Paper	50%	14 June 2016 10am

Synopsis

Due: **30 March 2016 10am**

Weighting: **15%**

This is a thought provoking exercise intended to stimulate students to work out an appropriate proposal of research that relates to **Trade in Natural Resources**. However, students who are unable to select a topic of research and to formulate a research proposal may be assisted. They are advised to approach the Convenor after exhausting their own sincere efforts. Each student is required to submit a 1,000 word (excluding footnotes and bibliography) outline of their research topic, including literature review. Further instructions will be provided on the unit iLearn page.

(Students who do not submit a Synopsis for their Research Paper will receive a Fail Grade of zero for their final assessment task).

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain and critique linkages between international environmental law and international

trade law

- Critique key institutions and actors through which international environmental law and international trade law interact
- Explain and critically assess how law, politics and the self-interest of nation states play a critical role in the inter-relationship of trade and environmental protection
- Evaluate the relationship between trade related economic growth and the environmental impacts in the pursuit for sustainable development, especially as related to the interests of developing countries

Assignment

Due: **4 May 2016 10am**

Weighting: **35%**

This 3,000 word assignment (excluding footnotes and bibliography) will involve answering a set question provided to all students within the first two weeks of the semester. Students will be assessed on their understanding and explanation of the legal issues presented, the depth of their research as well as their critical evaluation of the relevant issues. Research should extend beyond the prescribed books and course materials (the recommended books and journals provide a starting point for further research). Clarity of expression, presentation of argument, responsiveness to question, and correct and consistent reference style will also be taken into account. The paper should be well structured including sub-headings where appropriate. The introduction should set out the scope of the paper. Students need to include sufficient detail of the specific legal principles or regime and analysis/application of that law. Be sure to answer the question asked. The conclusion should include recommendations for law reform, further research and/or creative application of the existing law where appropriate. The assignment should be fully referenced according to the Australian Guide to Legal Citation.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain and critique linkages between international environmental law and international trade law
- Critique key institutions and actors through which international environmental law and international trade law interact
- Explain and critically assess how law, politics and the self-interest of nation states play a critical role in the inter-relationship of trade and environmental protection
- Evaluate the relationship between trade related economic growth and the environmental impacts in the pursuit for sustainable development, especially as related to the interests of developing countries

Research Paper

Due: **14 June 2016 10am**

Weighting: **50%**

Students will be required to prepare a 4,000 word (excluding footnotes and bibliography) research paper that builds on the Synopsis (same topic) submitted earlier in the semester.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain and critique linkages between international environmental law and international trade law
- Critique key institutions and actors through which international environmental law and international trade law interact
- Explain and critically assess how law, politics and the self-interest of nation states play a critical role in the inter-relationship of trade and environmental protection
- Evaluate the relationship between trade related economic growth and the environmental impacts in the pursuit for sustainable development, especially as related to the interests of developing countries
- Construct an enquiring, critical and creative approach to the existing debates and tensions surrounding the trade-environment nexus.
- Assess where the relationship between international environmental law and international trade law can be expected to develop in the future, especially having regard to the objectives of sustainable development and making recommendations for policy development and institutional reform

Delivery and Resources

DELIVERY MODE

This unit is delivered as a two hour weekly lecture. The unit will also have a one-hour weekly tutorial following the lecture. Lectures and tutorials will be held during weeks 2 to 13 of the semester (no lecture or tutorial in week 1).

Further information about the course will be available on the unit iLearn page from the start of the semester.

All assessments are to be submitted online using the Turnitin links provided on the unit iLearn page.

REQUIRED TEXT

The required text for this course is the IISD and UNEP, *Environment and Trade: A Handbook - Second Edition*. It is available online at <http://www.iisd.org/publications/pub.aspx?pno=754>

SUPPLEMENTARY TEXT

Shawkat Alam, *Sustainable Development and Free Trade* (Routledge,2008). Call number [HF 1713 .A436 2008](#), Macquarie Library

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

New Assessment Policy in effect from Session 2 2016 http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy_2016.html. For more information visit http://students.mq.edu.au/events/2016/07/19/new_assessment_policy_in_place_from_session_2/

Assessment Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy prior to Session 2 2016 <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/complaint_management/procedure.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Note: In the absence of a successful application for special consideration due to a disruption to studies, any assessment task submitted after its published deadline will not be graded and will receive a mark of zero. Applications for a Disruption to Studies are made electronically via ask.mq.edu.au and should be accompanied by supporting documentation. Students should refer to the Disruption to Studies policy for complete details of the policy and a description of the supporting documentation required.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Assess where the relationship between international environmental law and international trade law can be expected to develop in the future, especially having regard to the objectives of sustainable development and making recommendations for policy development and institutional reform

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Explain and critique linkages between international environmental law and international trade law
- Critique key institutions and actors through which international environmental law and international trade law interact
- Explain and critically assess how law, politics and the self-interest of nation states play a critical role in the inter-relationship of trade and environmental protection
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Assessment tasks

- Synopsis
- Assignment
- Research Paper

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Explain and critique linkages between international environmental law and international trade law
- Critique key institutions and actors through which international environmental law and international trade law interact
- Explain and critically assess how law, politics and the self-interest of nation states play a

critical role in the inter-relationship of trade and environmental protection

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Assessment tasks

- Assignment
- Research Paper

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Evaluate the relationship between trade related economic growth and the environmental impacts in the pursuit for sustainable development, especially as related to the interests of developing countries
- Construct an enquiring, critical and creative approach to the existing debates and tensions surrounding the trade-environment nexus.
- Assess where the relationship between international environmental law and international trade law can be expected to develop in the future, especially having regard to the objectives of sustainable development and making recommendations for policy development and institutional reform

Assessment tasks

- Synopsis
- Assignment
- Research Paper

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Evaluate the relationship between trade related economic growth and the environmental impacts in the pursuit for sustainable development, especially as related to the interests of developing countries
- Construct an enquiring, critical and creative approach to the existing debates and tensions surrounding the trade-environment nexus.
- Assess where the relationship between international environmental law and international trade law can be expected to develop in the future, especially having regard to the objectives of sustainable development and making recommendations for policy development and institutional reform

Assessment task

- Research Paper

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Critique key institutions and actors through which international environmental law and international trade law interact
- Explain and critically assess how law, politics and the self-interest of nation states play a critical role in the inter-relationship of trade and environmental protection
- Evaluate the relationship between trade related economic growth and the environmental impacts in the pursuit for sustainable development, especially as related to the interests of developing countries
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Assessment task

- Research Paper

Changes from Previous Offering

Class participation dropped as an assessment and replaced by a graded Research Synopsis.