Universidad de Alcalá

TEACHING GUIDE

SUBJECT
PRIVATE INTERNATIONAL LAW

LAW DEGREE
University of Alcalá

Academic Year 2026/2027
Third year – 2nd Semester

TEACHING GUIDE

Subject Name:	**Private International Law**
Code:	**400021**
Degree in which it is taught:	**Law Degree**
Department and Area of Knowledge:	**Legal Sciences. Private International Law**
Character:	**Obligatory**
ECTS Credits:	**8**
Course and semester:	**Third. Second semester**
Teaching staff:	Professor Ana Fernández Pérez Noelia Fernández Avello PhD.
Tutoring Schedule: Arrange tutoring with the Teacher a.fernandezperez@uah.es n.fernandeza@uah.es	
Language in which it is taught:	English

WARNING: The University of Alcalá guarantees its students that, if due to health requirements the competent authorities prevent the total or partial presence of the teaching activity, the teaching plans would achieve their objectives to through a teaching-learning and evaluation methodology in online format, which would return to the face-to-face modality as soon as these impediments ceased.

1. PRESENTATION

The objective of this subject is to determine the legal regime of any situation or relationship of law that contains a foreign element. Aspects of International Civil Procedural Law in the field of private law will be analyzed.

Abstract

The students will learn to define the legal system for any legal situation or relation which has something to do with foreign countries. Especially, aspects of International Civil Procedure Law will be analyzed in the field of Private Law.

Prerequisites and Recommendations (if applicable)

It is highly recommended that students approach the study of this discipline when they possess sufficient knowledge in General Theory of Law and Civil Procedural Law. However, it is not a formally enforceable requirement.

Prerequisites and Recommendations (where relevant)

It is highly recommended that students take this course if they have already extensively studied Theory of Law and Civil Procedure Law. However, this is not considered a formal requirement.

2. COMPETENCES

Generic competences:

1. Learning from the application of legislation to the resolution of specific practical assumptions and the correct handling of techniques for interpreting positive standards.
2. Introduction to the critique of doctrinal texts and jurisprudence.
3. Development and demonstration of digital skills
4. Commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with particular attention to those related to sustainability, diversity, and gender perspective
5. Improvement of oral expression and management of legal terminology.

Specific competences:

1. Management of the methods of solution and the techniques of affirmation of this discipline.
2. Understanding of the extent and limit of the jurisdiction of our judges and authorities in international and cross-border cases of a private nature.
3. Determination of the effects of legal relationships and situations arising under the protection of foreign orders or decisions.
4. Knowledge of the legal framework in which the legal response must be framed (constitutional and general public order).

3. CONTENTS

Content blocks (topics can be specified if deemed necessary)	Total classes, credits, and hours
	200

First block: Training in general theory of Private International Law.	• 10 face-to-face theoretical hours. • 10 hours of self-preparation • 10 hours of practical classes • 10 hours of internship preparation .
Second Block. International Civil Procedural Law	• 30 face-to-face theoretical hours. • 40 hours of self-preparation • 40 hours of practical classes • 40 hours of internship preparation
Attendance at Seminars and Conferences on current issues in the International Private Law field.	• 10 hours

Timeline (Optional)	
Week / Session	Content
01st	• Object, content, and sources of Private International Law
02nd	• International jurisdiction (I) European regime
3rd	• International jurisdiction (II) Autonomous system
4th	• Law applicable to the process
5th	• Procedural specialties with a foreign element and international judicial assistance
06th	• The conflict rule and material norms
7th	• Indirect determination of applicable law
8th	• Application of foreign law
09th	• Procedural treatment of foreign law

10th	• Recognition of foreign decisions (I). Regimes in presence
11th	• Recognition of foreign decisions (II). Effects and types of recognition. Conditions of recognition
12th	• Capacity and person
13th	• Family and inheritance
14th	• Contractual and non-contractual obligations

4. TEACHING-LEARNING METHODOLOGIES. - TRAINING ACTIVITIES

4.1. Distribution of credits (specify in hours)

Number of face-to-face hours:	56 face-to-face hours
Number of hours of the student's own work:	144 hours of work and preparation
Total hours	200

4.2. Methodological strategies, materials and teaching resources

Master classes	Theoretical classes aimed at knowing and interpreting the legal regime of transnational - and cross-border - relations and situations in the Spanish System.
Discussion on recommended reading. Resolution of case studies	In the practical classes, the resolution of practical cases will be proposed.
Oral presentations	Throughout the semester, students must make an oral presentation of a maximum of 10 minutes on a topic of the subject that will have been assigned to them at the beginning of the course.

5. EVALUATION: Procedures, evaluation and qualification criteria

The course follows a continuous assessment system. To remain in this system, students must attend at least 80% of the classes. The course will be assessed through continuous evaluation based on the grades obtained in the following compulsory components:

1. **Two theoretical multiple-choice exams**, each consisting of 20 theoretical questions with four answer options. To pass each exam, students must correctly answer at least 70% of the questions (14 correct answers). This component accounts for **40%** of the final grade.
2. **Two practical exams.** Solving the practical cases will account for **35%** of the final grade.
3. **Oral presentations and participation in them** (**10%**).
4. **Class attendance** (**5%**).
5. **Attendance at seminars and activities organized by the department** (**10%**).

Two midterm exams will be held. Each will consist of a theoretical test and a practical exam, as described above. In order to calculate the average, a minimum score of 4 out of 10 must be obtained in each of them. If this threshold is not met in the first midterm exam, it may be retaken together with the second midterm exam.

To pass the course, students must obtain an overall final grade of at least 5 out of 10.

Students who cannot follow the general continuous assessment scheme and have notified the Dean's Office within the established deadlines must take a **final exam during the regular examination session**. This exam will assess the acquisition of both theoretical and practical knowledge through:

- a **multiple-choice test** of 40 questions with four answer options (worth **50%** of the final grade; a 70% success rate—28 correct answers—is required to pass),
- and the resolution of **two practical cases** (worth **50%** of the final grade).

The minimum passing grade for each part is 5 out of 10, and both parts must be passed in order to calculate the average. Attendance at seminars and activities organized by the department may positively affect the final grade, as determined in each specific case.
In the **resit (extraordinary) examination session**, the assessment system will be identical to that described for the final exam modality.

During the assessment activities, students must comply with the guidelines established in the Regulations on Coexistence at the University of Alcalá, including the consequences of any irregularities committed during the assessments, and particularly those related to academic fraud, in accordance with the Student Disciplinary Regulations of the University of Alcalá
. The teaching and learning methodology, as well as the assessment process, will be adjusted when necessary, following the guidelines of the Diversity Support Unit, in order to apply curricular adaptations for students with specific needs.

Assessment will take into account the correct use of oral and written expression within the legal field. Students are reminded that all written assignments and exam exercises must be properly written, meaning they should be free of spelling mistakes, use punctuation marks appropriately, and exhibit correct syntax. Assignments and exam exercises containing **five or more serious errors** may receive a **failing grade** for not meeting the competencies required in this course.

Assignments and presentations that reflect a commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—particularly those related to **sustainability, diversity, and gender perspective**—will be positively assessed.
Assignments and oral presentations that demonstrate proficiency in the use of digital tools and resources will also be positively assessed.

6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Basic Bibliography:

- Calvo Caravaca, A., Carrascosa González, J., *European Private International Law*, Editorial Comares S.L, Granada, 2022.

- Complementary Bibliography:

- It will be provided in the development of each module, in response to the most current legal issue at that time or the recent publication of a relevant text.