

University of Pretoria Yearbook 2025

International law aspects of extractive industries 804 (EIL 804)

Qualification	Postgraduate
Faculty	Faculty of Law
Module credits	30.00
NQF Level	09
Programmes	LLM specialising in Extractive Industry Law in Africa (Coursework)
Prerequisites	No prerequisites.
Language of tuition	Module is presented in English
Department	Public Law
Period of presentation	Semester 1 or Semester 2

Module content

The objective of this module is to equip students with a thorough understanding of the international law aspects of extractive industries. Topics include:

- Sovereignty in respect of legal regimes and laws governing extractive industries including the act of state doctrine, the doctrine of sovereign immunity and waivers of immunity and compensation for expropriation;
- An overview of the most relevant treaties and conventions of relevance to extractive industries including the Convention on the Continental Shelf, the OILPOL convention, the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, the UN Conventions of the Law of the Sea, the New York Convention, the Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States, the Energy Charter Treaty to protect international energy investment and trade; international environmental law treaties and conventions and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.
- Relevant aspects pertaining to the World Trade Organisation including extractive industry subsidies, environmental labelling and confiscatory taxation;
- Direct and indirect forms of resource nationalisation and investment treaties to protect natural resource investors;
- The legal status of offshore petroleum and mining installations and vessels including production platforms, floating production, storage and offloading (FPSOs) vessels and subsea pipelines as well as state jurisdiction in respect of such installations.
- International dispute resolution mechanisms including enforcement of arbitration awards.

General Academic Regulations and Student Rules

The [General Academic Regulations \(G Regulations\)](#) and [General Student Rules](#) apply to all faculties and

registered students of the University, as well as all prospective students who have accepted an offer of a place at the University of Pretoria. On registering for a programme, the student bears the responsibility of ensuring that they familiarise themselves with the General Academic Regulations applicable to their registration, as well as the relevant faculty-specific and programme-specific regulations and information as stipulated in the relevant yearbook. Ignorance concerning these regulations will not be accepted as an excuse for any transgression, or basis for an exception to any of the aforementioned regulations. The G Regulations are updated annually and may be amended after the publication of this information.

Regulations, degree requirements and information

The faculty regulations, information on and requirements for the degrees published here are subject to change and may be amended after the publication of this information.

University of Pretoria Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) verification project

The higher education sector has undergone an extensive alignment to the Higher Education Qualification Sub-Framework (HEQSF) across all institutions in South Africa. In order to comply with the HEQSF, all institutions are legally required to participate in a national initiative led by regulatory bodies such as the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET), the Council on Higher Education (CHE), and the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The University of Pretoria is presently engaged in an ongoing effort to align its qualifications and programmes with the HEQSF criteria. Current and prospective students should take note that changes to UP qualification and programme names, may occur as a result of the HEQSF initiative. Students are advised to contact their faculties if they have any questions.