Course Goals and content
The goal of the course is to gain an understanding of International Law and Economics with a special focus on international trade and international investment law. Economic analysis applied to trade and investment includes political economy, contract theory, basic game theory as well as behavioural economics. After the course, students should be able to apply economic reasoning to questions of international law and understand international economic reasoning to questions of international law and trade as well as be able to analyse current developments in international trade and investment law as well as their interaction with other areas of international law and their development from that perspective. They should also have the tools to analyse current developments in international trade and investment law.

Course Content
A) International Law and Economics
1. The Rationalist Approach to International Law (Dunoff Trachtman YJIL 1989)
2. Behavioral Approaches to International Law(van Aaken, HILJ 2014)
3. Economic Tools used in the Analysis of International Law (slides)
4. Treaty Making and Compliance (slides)
B) International Trade
5. WTO as an Incomplete Contract (World Trade Report, 2007, II C)
6. Political Economy and International Trade (Milner 1999)
C) International Investment Law
7. Economic Contract Theory of International Investment Law (van Aaken JIEL 2009)
8. Empirics of Investment Treaties and Adjudication (slides)
D) New Developments: Security Concerns and Protectionism
9. (Behavioral) Explanations of Protectionism (van Aaken/Kurtz 2019)
10. The Framing of Security in Trade and Investment (Cohen JIEL 2020)

Bibliography
- Helen V. Milner, The Political Economy of International Trade, 2/1 Annual Review of Political Science (1999), 91-114
- WTO, World Trade Report, 2007, Chapter II C.

Grading
Class participation (10%); take-home exam (90%).

Organization
The course is intended for PhD students. A limited number of people with relevant professional or academic interest may also be admitted.

Place: WTI, University of Bern, Switzerland. Some sessions may be online, via Zoom.


The tuition fee is CHF 500. A limited number of (partial) tuition fee waivers is available for participants from developing countries and WTI partner institutions.

Timetable and Registration
The course takes place from Monday 26.09 until Friday 30.09. 2022. Class hours are 10.00 am -12 pm (noon), 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm. This is an intensive course. Please try to do (some) readings already before the course-week starts – we want to discuss them in the class.

Available course outlines and reading material can be found under the course listing on the Doctoral Programme webpage.

https://www.wti.org/education/doctoral-programme/#open-94792-phd-courses-and-summer-school

Send your application to:
phd.applications@wti