



# M.A. in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes





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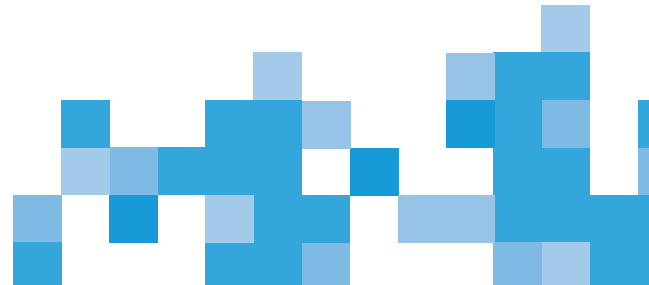


## About the Programme

The **Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes** (on-site, hybrid, and online formats) is a graduate programme that offers students an understanding of the role that international law and institutions play in the settlement of international and transnational disputes. This specialization examines the role of national and international courts and tribunals in contributing to the settlement of disputes. As international and transnational adjudication has acquired a more prominent role in international relations, it is essential to understand how these global and regional courts are responding to the challenges of the early 21st Century. Students will examine the role of international law in the settlement of disputes in a wide array of fields such as human rights, armed conflicts, territorial and maritime border issues, environment and climate change, multilateral trade, investments, amongst others. Students will learn not only the traditional legal processes employed

in international and transnational adjudication but also the alternative forms of dispute settlement prevalent in international law. Students will also attend skills development sessions that are designed to support their professional career and employability.

This master's degree offered by the University for Peace and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research combines the best of academic and executive-style education. Students will also gain first-hand experience of the work of the United Nations (UN) as they will have the opportunity to participate in a field trip to Geneva or The Hague where the UN maintains a significant presence.





## ■ Who is it for?

The programme is designed for graduate students, diplomats, government officers, NGO representatives, international civil servants or private law practitioners looking to to strengthen their knowledge in international law, dispute settlement, international affairs management and diplomacy.

## Invest in Your Future

This unique programme, backed by the United Nations, is designed to provide students with first-hand experience in the area of International Law and the Settlement of Disputes.



### LEARN FROM HIGHLY EXPERIENCED EXPERTS

This programme is taught by practitioners, UN staff, diplomats and academics.



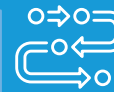
### VISIT THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE UN

It includes an optional field trip to Geneva or The Hague, where students will experience the UN first-hand and attend skills-based sessions for a successful international career.



### BENEFIT FROM AN INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH

It connects different dimensions of international law and the settlement of disputes to provide holistic knowledge, and advance students' understanding of cross-cutting issues related to promotion of the rule of law, human rights, peace and security, and sustainable development.



### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF FLEXIBLE LEARNING METHODS

Students can also pursue a shorter programme, i.e.: Certificate in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (online). Students can also sign up for individual online courses within the framework of the Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (offered in on-site, hybrid, or online formats).

## ■ Duration

Students must complete the Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (online) in a maximum of 4 semesters.

Students must complete the Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (hybrid) in a maximum of 4 semesters, with the first semester at UPEACE campus in San José, Costa Rica, between August and December of the year of enrolment.

Students must complete the Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (on-site) in a maximum of 2 semesters of course work and 1 additional semester for submission of their final graduation project.

Students must complete the Certificate in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (online) in a maximum of 4 semesters.

## ■ Format

The Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (online) and the Certificate in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (online) will be implemented entirely online. All subjects will be hosted on UPEACE's Virtual Learning Environment.

The Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (on-site) will be implemented face-to-face in San José, Costa Rica on UPEACE's campus. Some courses taught by UNITAR may, if necessary, be delivered synchronously through virtual modality, although students will be required to be on campus.

The Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (hybrid) will be implemented both face-to-face (in San José, Costa Rica on UPEACE's campus (first semester) and online (second, third and fourth semesters). All online subjects will be hosted on UPEACE's Virtual Learning Environment.



## ■ Learning Objectives

At the end of the programme, students should:

- Have gained holistic, rigorous, and critical knowledge of the role that international law and institutions play in the settlement of disputes
- Possess skills in developing pleadings before international courts and tribunals through moot court simulations and opportunities such as representing UPEACE-UNITAR directly in the final rounds of the Phillip Jessup Moot Court competition
- Have a solid understanding of dispute settlement norms and practices in diverse areas and of international law, such as human rights law, law of armed conflicts, law of the sea, law related to territorial and boundary disputes, international trade and investment, international criminal law, international environmental law, amongst others
- Learn practical tools for the settlement of legal disputes through non-judicial means, including diplomacy, negotiation, mediation, and conciliation, as well as have an in-depth understanding of non-judicial mechanisms for justice, including in post-conflict transitional settings



## ■ About UNITAR

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) was created in 1963 to train and equip young diplomats from newly-independent UN Member States with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate through the diplomatic environment. Over the years, UNITAR has acquired unique expertise and experience in designing and delivering a variety of training activities to individuals from both public and private sectors.

## About UNITAR's Work on Multilateral Diplomacy and International Law

UNITAR is a leading training provider in global and strategic challenges for professionals within and outside the United Nations system. Through its Division for Multilateral Diplomacy, UNITAR works closely with the United Nations Member States and an increasing number of other partners to strengthen the capacities of diplomats, government officials and other individuals, in view of actively supporting the overall efficiency of the multilateral system and in the field of international law.





## ■ About UPEACE

The University for Peace was established as a Treaty Organization with its own Charter in an International Agreement adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 35/55 on 5 December 1980, with the mission “to provide humanity with an international institution of higher education for peace and with the aim of promoting among all human beings the spirit of understanding, tolerance and peaceful coexistence, to stimulate cooperation among peoples and to help lessen obstacles and threats to world peace and progress, in keeping with the noble aspirations proclaimed in the Charter of the United Nations.”

## Credits and Enrollment Fees




### M.A. in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes - On-site

The Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (on-site) will comprise a total of 41 credits, allocated as follows:



In order to graduate from the programme, students must undertake the courses marked as 'Mandatory' in the list below. In addition, students must take optional courses from the list, before completing their final graduation project (IRP).

UN staff and Costa Rican nationals can opt for a 50% waiver (tuition balance: 9,750 USD). All other applicants may apply for a 20% waiver (tuition balance: 15,600 USD), which may be granted in limited numbers by mutual decision of UPEACE and UNITAR to ensure equitable gender and regional representation.

Course Title	Entity	Type
UPEACE Foundation Course		Mandatory
Public International Law		Mandatory
UN System		Mandatory

Course Title	Entity	Type
International Human Rights Law		Mandatory
Universal Human Rights System		Mandatory
Law Related to Armed Conflict Part I (Jus ad bellum)		Mandatory
Law Related to Armed Conflict Part II (Jus in bello)		Mandatory
International Criminal Law and Transitional Justice		Mandatory
International and Transnational Adjudication		Mandatory
International Trade and Investment Law and the Settlement of Disputes		Mandatory

Course Title	Entity	Type
Cyber Law and Warfare		Mandatory
Maritime and Territorial Settlement of Disputes		Mandatory
International Environmental Law and the Settlement of Disputes		Mandatory
Skills for a Successful International Career		Mandatory
Alternative Dispute Resolution in International Law		Mandatory
Model United Nations Conference		Mandatory
Thesis or Internship		Mandatory

## M.A. in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (hybrid)

The Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (online and hybrid) will comprise a total of 42 credits, allocated as follows:



Students can obtain the M.A. in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (hybrid) upon successful completion of 42 credits, including 36 credits for course work and 6 credits for a final independent research project (IRP). For the M.A. in international Law and the Settlement of Disputes (on-site), students must complete a total of 41 credits, including 33 credits for course work and 8 credits for the final graduation project which may either be a thesis or an internship.




In order to graduate from the programme, students must undertake the courses as per the list below, before completing their respective final graduation projects.








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**Tuition Fees:** The course fee of the Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (hybrid) is 13,000 USD. UN staff will be eligible for a 20% waiver (2,600 USD). Therefore, UN staff will pay 10,400 USD. Furthermore, Costa Rican citizens and residents will be eligible for a 30% waiver (3,900 USD). Therefore, Costa Rican nationals and residents will pay 9,100 USD.







UN Photo/Evan Schneider

Course Title	Entity	Type	Methodology
UPEACE Foundation Course		Mandatory	On-Campus
Public International Law		Mandatory	On-Campus
UN System		Mandatory	On-Campus

Course Title	Entity	Type	Methodology
International Human Rights Law		Mandatory	On-Campus
Universal Human Rights System		Mandatory	On-Campus
Law Related to Armed Conflict Part I (Jus ad bellum)		Mandatory	On-Campus
Law Related to Armed Conflict Part II (Jus in bello)		Mandatory	On-Campus
International Criminal Law		Optional	Online
Law of Treaties		Optional	Online
International Environmental Law		Mandatory	Online
Transitional Justice		Optional	Online

Course Title	Entity	Type	Methodology
International and Transnational Adjudication		Mandatory	Online
Skills for a Successful International Career		Optional	One week On-campus (live streamed as well) and one week Online
International Trade and Investment Law and the Settlement of Disputes		Mandatory	Online
Cyber Law and Warfare		Mandatory	Online
Maritime and Territorial Dispute Settlement		Mandatory	Online

Course Title	Entity	Type	Methodology
Workshop on Negotiation and Mediation Skills		Optional	Online
Law of International Organizations		Mandatory	Online
International Environmental Law (Repeat offering)		Mandatory	Online
Final Graduation Project			
Independent Research Project		Mandatory	Online



## M.A. in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (online)

The Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (online and hybrid) will comprise a total of 42 credits, allocated as follows:




Students can obtain the M.A. in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (online) upon successful completion of 42 credits, including 36 credits for course work and 6 credits for a final independent research project (IRP). For the M.A. in international Law and the Settlement of Disputes (on-site), students must complete a total of 41 credits, including 33 credits for course work and 8 credits for the final graduation project which may either be a thesis or an internship.

In order to graduate from the programme, students must undertake the courses as per the list below, before completing their respective final graduation projects.

**Tuition Fees:** The course fee of the Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (online) is 11,000 USD. UN staff will be eligible for a 20% waiver (2,200 USD). Therefore, UN staff will pay 8,800 USD. Furthermore, Costa Rican nationals and residents will be eligible for a 30% waiver (3,300 USD). Therefore, Costa Rican citizens and residents will pay 7,700 USD.

Course Title	Entity	Type
Public International Law		Mandatory
International Human Rights Law		Mandatory
UPEACE Foundation Course		Mandatory
UN System		Mandatory

Course Title	Entity	Type
Law Related to Armed Conflict Part I (Jus ad bellum)		Mandatory
Law Related to Armed Conflict Part II (Jus in bello)		Mandatory
International Criminal Law		Optional
Law of Treaties		Optional
International Environmental Law		Mandatory
Transitional Justice		Optional
International and Transnational Adjudication		Mandatory
Skills for a Successful International Career		Optional

Course Title	Entity	Type
International Trade and Investment Law and the Settlement of Disputes		Mandatory
Cyber Law and Warfare		Mandatory
Maritime and Territorial Dispute Settlement		Mandatory
Workshop on Negotiation and Mediation Skills		Optional
Law of International Organizations		Mandatory
International Environmental Law (Repeat offering)		Mandatory
Final Graduation Project		
Independent Research Project		Mandatory

## Online Certificate in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes

Mandatory credits (6 Credits) + Optional Credits (6 Credits) = 12 Credits



**Tuition Fees:** 3,550 USD. No partial tuition waivers will be offered for the certificate.

Students can obtain the Certificate in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes upon successful completion of 12 credits.

The list of courses mentioned below shall be kept under review and be modified from time to time by UPEACE and UNITAR through mutual agreement with the objective of improving the programme offering.

All courses will be hosted on UPEACE's Virtual Learning Environment:

Course Title	Entity	Type
International Criminal Law		Optional
Transitional Justice		Optional
International and Transnational Adjudication		Mandatory
International Trade and Investment Law and the Settlement of Disputes		Mandatory
Cyber Law and Cyber Warfare		Optional
Maritime and Territorial Dispute Settlement		Mandatory
Law of International Organisation or Law of Treaties		Optional



## Optional Field Visit to Geneva or The Hague

Each year UNITAR will organize two optional 5-day field trips to Geneva (Switzerland) and The Hague (Netherlands) for the students in the Master of Arts in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (On-site, Online and Hybrid) and the Certificate in International Law and the Settlement of Disputes (online). Students can sign up for one field visit or for both (Geneva and The Hague) if they wish to do so.

During this activity, students will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in the very heart of diplomacy, visit different international organizations and network with other diplomats, personnel of permanent missions accredited to the UN, civil servants of international organizations and civil society representatives.

The fee for each five-day field trip is 1,500 USD. If students register for both field visits, the ten-day field trip is 3,000 USD. The fee does not include travel, accommodation, food or visa expenses.





 **Apply Now**





On-site and Hybrid Master's Degree:

✉ [admissions@upeace.org](mailto:admissions@upeace.org)

Online Master's Degree and Certificate Programme:

✉ [admissions@elearning.upeace.org](mailto:admissions@elearning.upeace.org)

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