GDAŃSK UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Subject card

Subject name and code	International Maritime Law and Safety Regulations, PG_00068852						
Field of study	Mechanical Engineering						
Date of commencement of studies	February 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject	2025/2026			
Education level	second-cycle studies		Subject group				
Mode of study	Full-time studies		Mode of delivery	at the university			
Year of study	1		Language of instruction	English			
Semester of study	1		ECTS credits	1.0			
Learning profile	general academic profile		Assessment form	assessment			
Conducting unit	Institute of Naval Architecture -> Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Ship Technology -> Faculties of Gdańsk University of Technology						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor	prof. dr hab. inż. Wiesław Tarełko					
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours	Self-study	SUM	
	Number of study hours	15		0.0	0.0	15	
Subject objectives	The aim of the course is to familiarize students with the historical development and current structure of international legal regulations concerning maritime navigation, particularly in the areas of safety and environmental protection. Students gain knowledge of the fundamental conventions and technical standards developed by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and learn to analyze their practical application in the context of the maritime industry's operations. The course also develops critical thinking skills and an understanding of the social, economic, and legal conditions related to ship operations and international maritime law.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[K7_K71] is able to explain the need to apply knowledge from humanistic, social, economic or legal sciences in order to function in a social environment	The student can explain the significance of incorporating knowledge from humanistic, social, economic, and legal sciences to understand the functioning of maritime systems in a broader societal context. The student demonstrates awareness of how legal norms and social responsibility shape international maritime operations.	[SK4] Assessment of communication skills, including language correctness
	[K7_W71] has general knowledge in humanistic, social, economic or legal sciences, including their fundamentals and applications	The student demonstrates a general understanding of the fundamentals of humanistic, social, economic, and legal sciences as they relate to maritime law and international safety regulations. The student is able to explain key concepts in the development and application of maritime legal frameworks and assess their broader impact on society and the shipping industry.	[SW1] Assessment of factual knowledge
	[K7_U71] is able to apply knowledge from humanistic, social, economic or legal sciences in order to solve problems	The student is able to apply interdisciplinary knowledge from humanistic, social, economic, and legal sciences to solve practical problems in maritime law and regulation. The student analyzes regulatory challenges and proposes solutions within real-world maritime operational contexts.	[SU2] Assessment of ability to analyse information

Subject contents	Course content – lecture **Introduction to Maritime Law** Origins and development of maritime law from antiquity to the present day The role of maritime law in ensuring the safety and efficiency of maritime transport **The Titanic Disaster as an Impetus for Regulatory Change** Case study: causes and consequences of the Titanic disaster The SOLAS Conference and reforms in international safety regulations **The Establishment of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)** Historical background and motivations behind the creation of the IMO Goals and functions of the IMO in shaping global maritime law **Structure and Functioning of the IMO** IMO bodies and their competencies Cooperation among member states and the IMOs influence on international regulations **Major IMO Conventions and Protocols** Overview of the SOLAS, MARPOL, and STCW conventions Practical significance of these conventions in ship operations **Technical Requirements and Ship Safety Standards** The process of developing and implementing technical standards Life-saving equipment, fire protection, stability, and other key technical aspects **Regulations Concerning the Protection of the Marine Environment** Marine pollution and countermeasures under the MARPOL convention The impact of environmental regulations on ship operation **Legal Conditions of Ship Operation Case Studies** International, EU, and national legal frameworks The role of regulatory institutions and classification societies (e.g., DNV GL, Lloyds Register) **Legal Regulations in Different Jurisdictions Case Studies** Examples of regulations in the USA, Japan, Poland, and the EU Case study: training tall ship and legal requirements for its operation in different legal systems **The Future of International Maritime Law** Current challenges and forecasts for the development of maritime law and safety regulations The role of research and operational analysis in improving legal and technical systems
Prerequisites and co-requisites	
Assessment methods and criteria	

Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
presentation in PowerPoint	66.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading	
Basic literature	Tarelko Wieslaw. Origins of Ship Safety Requirements Formulated by International Maritime Organization. Procedia Engineering. Elsevier. Volume 45, 2012, Pages 847-856
Supplementary literature	Saiful Karim. IMO Institutional Structure and Law-Making Process. In book: Prevention of Pollution of the Marine Environment from Vessels. 2015. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-10608-3_2 Francescutto A., Intact stability criteria of ships - Past, present and future, OCEAN ENGINEERING, Volume 120, Page 312-317, DOI10.1016/j.oceaneng.2016.02.030 Francescutto A.,The development of Second Generation Intact Stability Criteria, Proceedings in Marine Technology and Ocean Engineering 2020.
eResources addresses	

Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	1. Omów genezę prawa morskiego i jego rozwój od starożytności do współczesności. Jakie były główne czynniki wpływające na jego ewolucję? 2. Wyjaśnij, jak katastrofa Titanica wpłynęła na wprowadzenie nowych regulacji bezpieczeństwa morskiego. Jakie były kluczowe zmiany po Konferencji SOLAS? 3. Przedstaw rolę Międzynarodowej Organizacji Morskiej (IMO) w kształtowaniu globalnego prawa morskiego. Jakie są główne cele i funkcje IMO? 4. Opisz główne konwencje IMO: SOLAS, MARPOL i STCW. Jakie mają praktyczne znaczenie dla operacji morskich? 5. Omów proces tworzenia i wdrażania międzynarodowych regulacji dotyczących ochrony środowiska morskiego. Jakie są główne zasady wynikające z konwencji MARPOL?
Practical activites within the subject	Not applicable

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