



JDP SCHOOL OF LAW

Semester 1, 2026

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

LAW 326: LAW OF THE SEA

Important Instructions to Students:

1. Read the questions, instructions carefully and answer the questions.
2. You are allowed an **extra 10 minutes reading time** (during this time, you are not allowed to write) and **180 minutes (3 Hours) to complete this paper**.
3. All kinds of electronic gadgets (including smart phones, mobiles, tablets etc.) are strictly prohibited.
4. Write all your answers in the answer booklet provided. If you need extra sheets, please ask from the supervisor. Write your name, course code and student identification number in the answer booklet and in the attendance sheet.
5. **This Final Course Examination Paper is worth 60 marks.** Students must **score at least 30 marks** in this final exam to pass the course.
6. This paper contains **Nineteen (19)** questions. All questions are compulsory.
7. Write all your answers legibly. The marker has the right to award zero for answers that are not legible.
8. This is a **Closed Book Examination**.
9. The University views plagiarism, cheating and dishonest practice as serious offences and if found, offenders are penalized.

Examination Paper Content (Format):

Section	Question	Content	Marks	Suggested Time
A	1-10	Multiple Choice	10	30 minutes
B	11-16	Short Answer Questions	20	60 minutes
C	17-18	Long Answer Questions	15	45 minutes
D	19	Essay	15	45 minutes
		TOTAL	60	180 Minutes

SECTION A: Multiple Choice.

You must answers all questions in this section. Each question is worth 1 mark.

1. Which of the following encompasses protection of community interests at sea?
 - a. Freedom to conduct marine scientific research
 - b. Conservation of marine biological diversity
 - c. Protection of the marine environment
 - d. All of the above

2. Which is true for relevant considerations as a factor in a maritime boundary dispute?
 - a. Must be physical in nature
 - b. Geographical features such as the length and configuration of the coastline constitute relevant considerations.
 - c. Islands, atolls, bays, and peninsulas, associated coastal and geographical features which are important part of delimitation.
 - d. All of the above.

3. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is an area where a coastal state has sovereign rights and territorial integrity – whereby other states may not use the EEZ without the consent of the coastal state. Support the best answer.
 - a. True
 - b. False.

4. What statement that best describes zonal management?
 - a. Zonal management is a post-UNCLOS conservation approach.
 - b. Different rules are applicable to conservation of shared fish stocks, straddling fish stocks, highly migratory fish stocks and marine animals, anadromous stocks, catadromous stocks, and sedentary species.
 - c. Different rules apply to conservation of marine living resources according to each jurisdictional zone.
 - d. All of the above.

5. The primary difference between delineation and delimitation of a maritime boundary lies in whether or not the boundary is disputed between States. Circle the best answer.
 - a. True
 - b. False

6. Support the statement that is true for the high seas.
 - a. It refers to all parts of the ocean that lie beyond the territorial sea of any nation.
 - b. The high seas are not governed by any single nation and no country can assert sovereignty upon the high seas.
 - c. The high seas although a global commons encompass territorial sea.
 - d. Answers (a) and (b).

7. Which of the following is true for maritime boundary delimitation?
- States may take unilateral steps.
 - States are encouraged to resort to peaceful settlement of disputes through courts at the first opportunity.
 - UNCLOS encourages States to settle disputes through negotiated agreements before resorting to dispute settlement mechanisms.
 - None of the above.
8. When two States have overlapping EEZ claims, what principle is applied by ITLOS to achieve an equitable solution?
- Perpendicular line
 - 50/50 division
 - Adjusted median line (equitable solution) considering special circumstances.
 - Both answers (a) and (b)
9. Which of the following is true in regards to a Joint Development Area?
- A Joint Development Area can be formalized between States to exploit shared resources such as oil and gas.
 - A Joint Development Area agreement can be entered into pending a settlement of a maritime delimitation dispute.
 - A Joint Development Area is vital for economic interests.
 - All answers (a), (b) and (c).
10. There are three (3) approaches in the conservation of marine biological diversity which is a community interest at sea. Select the best combination that reflects these three approaches.
- Regional approach, zonal management approach, and precautionary approach
 - Regional approach, species-specific approach, and activity-specific approach
 - Both answers (a) and (b)
 - None of the above

[10 marks]

SECTION B- Short Answer Questions

You must answer all questions in this section.

11. Explain the theory of 'community interests at sea'. (3 marks)
12. Discuss the *Grisbadarna* Arbitration (1909) case judgement that was handed down by the Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA). (4 marks)

13. Explain the difference between the four approaches to the conservation of living resources namely, zonal approach, species-specific approach, ecosystem approach and the precautionary approach. (4 marks)
14. What are the general principles of Marine Scientific Research as provided in Article 240 of UNCLOS? (3 marks)
15. Explain the role of a marine protected area (MPA) in conservation. (3 marks)
16. Drawing on the Rio Declaration and the Stockholm Declaration, elaborate on the importance of 'marine biological diversity'. (3 marks)

[20 marks]

SECTION C- Long Answer Questions.

You must answer all questions in this section.

17. Briefly discuss the four Geneva Conventions that were absorbed in the new Law of the Sea Convention (LOSC) in 1982. To answer this question to the full extent, mention the characteristics of the four conventions and the areas that have been codified in the new LOSC. (8 marks)
18. Discuss the North Sea Continental Shelf case of 1969 heard by the International Court Justice (ICJ) between Germany and Denmark and Netherlands. (7 marks)

[15 marks]

SECTION D- Essay.

This is a compulsory question.

19. Drawing on Article 140 of Law of the Sea Convention (LOSC) that pertains to the 'Common Heritage of Mankind', discuss the significance of this principle to activities in the Area and it's intended benefit for the use of mankind as a whole.

[15 marks]