

POLITICAL SCIENCE 365
International Law & Organization
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Office: HFH 304
Instructor: Dr. Stephen E. Medvec

HOLY FAMILY UNIVERSITY
Classes: T/Th – 9:30 AM -10:45 AM
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SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION: An examination of the principles, foundations, and institutions of international law regulating diplomatic, financial, commercial, maritime, and cultural transactions among nations, including the emerging focus on international human rights, as well as restraints on the use of force in international relations. The primary focus is on international law; international organization is examined as one of the concepts and institutions that have evolved within the international legal system.

Basic reading for the course will be assigned from:

Gerhard von Glahn and James Larry Taulbee. Law Among Nations: An Introduction to Public International Law. Eighth Edition. New York: Pearson Longman, 2007.

Selected library or Internet readings.

- Students will be expected to prepare in advance the case law materials for presentation in class. The proper method of preparing case briefs will be explained in class. There is also a ten-page term paper required on an international legal issue. Plagiarism will not be tolerated.
- There will be one mid-term and a final exam.

PREREQUISITES. Any one of the following courses is required as a prerequisite: HIST 109; HIST 205; POLS 103, 204; 210; PSYC 101; RELS 104; PHIL 203, 204; SOCO 101.

CREDIT HOURS. This is a three-credit course to be offered every other spring semester.

ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: The required attendance of class meetings means that you did not miss more than three classes without a good reason (for example, a documented illness or competition where you represent the University). Each additional undocumented absence from class will automatically deduct 5 points from your final score. You are warned that much of the material on the tests will be presented in class only. You are expected to complete the week's readings and written assignments before they are lectured or discussed in class. In the event of absence, it is your responsibility to obtain the notes from others.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

- Be able to describe, recognize, and analyze International Law & Organization in theory and practice.
 - Students will, on exam questions, be able to list ways in which the concepts, definitions, and major theories related to the study of International Law & Organization conceptualize domestic- and foreign-policy concerns, international treaties, laws of war, the United Nations and other international organizations, human rights.
 - Students will be able to compare and contrast ways how international law is utilized and respected in other nation-states outside the United States, and how international legal precepts impact US foreign policy formulation.
 - These outcomes will be assessed through class discussions and specific essay questions on the mid-term and final exams.

- Students will prepare a term paper of at least 10 pages on some aspect of international law & organization.
 - Assessment will include proper use of English grammar, syntax, and punctuation.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Assessment for this course will be conducted as follows:

- Attendance and participation – 10%
- Mid-term examination – 25%
- Term paper – 30% (please refer to Course Objectives above for the assessment criteria for the written assignment)
- Final examination – 35%

GRADING POLICY: A (94-100%); B+ (90-93%); B (86-89%); C+ (81-85%); C (77-80%); D+ (73-76%); D (70-72%); F (below 70%).

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES: Those who require accommodations for this course must contact a staff member at the Counseling Center & Disabilities Services Office. Reasonable accommodations requested under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 will be provided for in accordance with Holy Family University policy and procedures.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Holy Family University encourages learners to grow intellectually as well as become responsible citizens of our community. Academic

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dishonesty subverts this mission and undermines the student's personal and intellectual growth. Therefore, violations of the academic honesty policy outlined in the Holy Family Catalog will result in a failing grade in this course and possible dismissal from the University.

COURSE OUTLINE	CHAPTERS
1. Nature, Sources & History of International Law (including Basic International Adjudication)	1, 2, 3, 4, 13
2. The Legal Status of States (Land, Sea, Space, Recognition, Self-determination of Peoples)	11
3. The Law of Treaties	12
4. Diplomatic and Sovereign Immunity, Political Asylum	10
5. International Business Law (Taxation, Expropriation, Intellectual Property, Consumer Protection, International Commodity Agreements)	5, 6
6. International Labor Regulation	7
7. International Environmental Regulation	8
8. International Criminal Law, Extradition, Laws of War, War Crimes	9, 14
9. The United Nations (UN) (Conflict Resolution, Peacekeeping, Collective Security, Specialized Agencies, the Future)	2, 3, 13, 14, 15
10. The UN and Human Rights, Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)	

SOURCES: EXCELLENT WEB SITES TO EXPLORE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEGAL SYSTEMS:

The American Society of International Law

<http://www.asil.org/resource/home.htm>

The International Law Institute

<http://www.ili.org>

U.S. Department of State

<http://www.state.gov>

Yearbook of International Cooperation on Environment and Development

<http://www.ext.grida.no/ggynet.html>;

International Law and Nuclear Energy: Overview of the Legal Framework

<http://www.iaea.or.at/worldtom/periodical/buttentin.html>

United Nations Treaty Series

<http://www.uncitral.org/english/status.pdf>

OECD, *Report of the Committee on International Investments and Multinational Enterprises, Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions and the 1997 Recommendation*

<http://www.oecd.org/pdf/M00029000/M00020509.pdf>

The World Bank

<http://www.worldbank.org/html>

Bank for International Settlements Basic Texts

<http://www.bis.org/html>.

SOURCES: JOURNALS

American Journal of International Law

American Political Science Review

Canadian Journal of Economics and Political Science

Columbia University International Law Journal

Emory International Law Review

Foreign Affairs

Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies

International Affairs

International and Comparative Law Quarterly

International Conciliation

International Organization

Journal of Conflict Resolution

Journal of International Affairs

Journal of Politics

Orbis

University of Georgia International Law Journal

University of Texas International Law Journal

World Politics