

---

**Course Outline**

---

**COURSE:** LAWS 2601A - Public International Law

**TERM:** Fall 2011-12

**PREREQUISITES:** 1.0 credit from LAWS 1000 [1.0], PAPM 1000 [1.0], PSCI 1000 [1.0], PSCI 1001, PSCI 1002

**CLASS:**       **Day & Time:** Tuesday 14:35-17:35  
                  **Room:** Please check with Carleton Central for current room location

**INSTRUCTOR:** T. Ashtakala  
**(CONTRACT)**

**CONTACT:**       **Office:** Loeb B-442 (Contract Instructors' Office)  
                  **Office Hrs:** By appointment  
                  **Email:** [Tara\\_Ashakala@carleton.ca](mailto:Tara_Ashakala@carleton.ca)

---

"Students with disabilities requiring academic accommodations in this course must contact a coordinator at the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities to complete the necessary Letters of Accommodation. After registering with the PMC, make an appointment to meet and discuss your needs with me in order to make the necessary arrangements as early in the term as possible, but no later than two weeks before the first assignment is due or the first test requiring accommodations. For further information, please see: <http://www2.carleton.ca/pmc/students/accommodations> . If you require accommodation for your formally scheduled exam(s) in this course, please submit your request for accommodation to PMC by 11 November 2011 for December exams and 7 March 2012 for April exams. For Religious and Pregnancy accommodations, please contact Equity Services, x. 5622 or their website: [www.carleton.ca/equity](http://www.carleton.ca/equity)

---

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Dutch jurist Hugo Grotius wrote of "a common law of nations" in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, but it was not until over two hundred years later that the first rules of how the nation states of the world should interact with one another in certain situations were codified. Since then, the scope of public international law has vastly expanded, both in terms of the areas of activity covered and with regard to who can be a subject of this legal domain. This course will introduce the student to the nature, sources, subjects, types and judicial operation of public international law, with an emphasis on how law and jurisprudence within Canada is increasingly applying and harmonizing with that evolving at the international level. The ultimate goal of the evaluation activities in this course is to help the student recognize the resonance between local and global legal issues.

**REQUIRED TEXTS**

Required readings will be accessible online. Some additional articles, as well as case study exercises, will be distributed in class. The readings are intended to reinforce or supplement lecture content.

**EVALUATION****All four (4) components must be completed in order to obtain a passing grade****1. Term Essay - 25% of final grade**

- essay due in class on 29 November 2011
- Length: 10 pages double-spaced, proper legal citation and bibliography required
- The task for the Term Essay is to take the everyday life issue selected at the first class and to analyze how it is dealt with in international law: what are the international law rules or norms that apply, what defect in those rules is causing, or failing to rectify, the problem and what is the most appropriate remedy in international law to fix it?

**2. Audio-visual Presentation - 10% of final grade**

- The task for the Presentation is to create a five (5)-minute video or skit that illustrates the everyday life issue selected. The video or skit must show why the issue is a problem (ie demonstrate its human impact) and summarize how it is reflected in international law.
- A sign-up sheet for presentation dates will be circulated at the first class.
- **You must sign up for your presentation date by the 20<sup>th</sup> of September**
- Presentations will commence on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October

**3. Closed book weekly quiz – 15% of final grade**

- A fifteen (15)-minute quiz will be held at each class on the preceding week's lecture material. The quiz will consist of 5 multiple choice or fill-in-the-blank questions and 1 essay question that you must answer in no more than one short paragraph.

**4. Open book final examination -50% of final grade** (during regularly scheduled examinations)

- the goal of the final exam is to apply the course content to 1) solve a practical fact pattern and to 2) thoroughly discuss a thematic issue.

**SCHEDULE** - *\*prior to 4 October: class format will take the following order: 1) weekly quiz, 2) lecture and 3) case study \*as of 4 October: class will consist of: 1) presentations (12 per class @ 5 minutes each), 2) weekly quiz, 3) lecture and 4) case study.*

**PART 1: BASIC PRINCIPLES**

13 Sep INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW; THE NATURE OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

20 Sep SOURCES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

27 Sep INTERNATIONAL LEGAL PERSONALITY

4 Oct RECEPTION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW IN NATIONAL LEGAL SYSTEMS

**PART II: THE LAW APPLICABLE TO NATION STATES**

11 Oct TERRITORY

18 Oct IMMUNITY AND INTERSTATE RELATIONS

25 Oct THE LAW OF TREATIES

**PART III: DIFFERENT AREAS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

1 Nov HUMAN RIGHTS

8 Nov INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND THE LAW OF THE SEA

15 Nov INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW

22 Nov THE LAW OF WAR AND THE USE OF FORCE

**PART IV: JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

29 Nov The world's courts: ICJ, ICC, ITLOS, WTO Panels