

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 3604 A – Law of International Organizations
TERM:	Fall 2024
PREREQUISITES:	LAWS 2601 and 0.5 credit in LAWS at the 2000 level or PAPM 1001 and PSCI 2003.
CLASS:	Day & Time: Wednesdays 14:35 – 17:25 Room: Please check Carleton Central for current Class Schedule Delivery: IN-PERSON
INSTRUCTOR:	Tara Ashtakala
CONTACT:	Office Hrs: By appointment Email: Tara.Ashtakala@carleton.ca
BRIGHTSPACE:	https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d2l/home/290267

CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION

Nature, character, legal status and jurisdiction of intergovernmental international organizations. Rights and duties of states arising from membership in international organizations. Distinction between international and supra-national institutions. United Nations system, selected subsidiary organs, and specialized agencies; non-governmental organizations at times of crisis.

INSTRUCTOR COURSE DESCRIPTION

The notion that human beings are better equipped to survive and to meet their needs collectively, rather than individually, has been embraced by international law, so much so that a separate branch, dealing with the norms, principles and rules of international organizations, has been elaborated. Solving global problems is beyond the capacities of individual States under general international law, so governments have found it efficient to delegate the administration of their international relations to bodies that they create. Those creations, however, can take on a legal life of their own; thus, international law and lawyers need to observe whether international organizations can claim greater space as subjects of international law and, ultimately, whether other non-State actors will be able to exploit that opening as well. This course will examine the origins, structure, types, powers, obligations, responsibilities and immunities of international organizations, primarily through the case law, in this *lex specialis* of public

international law.

REQUIRED TEXTS

You will need to purchase the online textbook for LAWS 3604 A, “Law of International Organizations”, provided by the Top Hat classroom response system. You will be sent an email invitation at the beginning of the semester that contains the links to enroll.

This interactive online resource contains text, the links to all assigned readings and questions to be answered after every assigned reading. **You will be able to write lecture notes in the online textbook itself with your device. You will receive 10% of your final mark in the course for participation by attempting to answer the questions in the text** . The correct answers will be discussed during lecture.

The purchase cost consists of the text “Law of International Organizations” as well as the subscription fee for the Top Hat system.

Should you require assistance with Top Hat at any time, due to the fact that they require specific user information to troubleshoot these issues, please contact their Support Team directly by way of email (support@tophat.com), by using the in app support button, by calling 1-888-663-5491 or by the online chat function.

COURSE DELIVERY:

- This course will be delivered in-person, on the day and at the time indicated above
- The text for each chapter in the interactive text indicates the readings to be done ahead of lecture and contains questions that help the student understand the concepts from each reading.
- It is during lecture that the answers to the pre-lecture questions in the text will be discussed.
- PLEASE NOTE: DURING THE FINAL EXAM, YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO ACCESS AN ONLINE DOCUMENT STORAGE PLATFORM. ANY NOTES YOU TAKE DURING LECTURES MUST BE CONFINED TO A SINGLE WORD DOCUMENT.
- Case study exercises, involving groups discussions, will also be conducted during the lecture session.
- The presentation and research paper components of evaluation in the course will be submitted by students as per the deadlines indicated in the “Evaluation” section below.

EVALUATION

Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools:

It is **prohibited** in this course to use generative AI tools (eg ChatGPT) to produce assessed content. Any work submitted for evaluation that has been produced using AI will be considered a violation of academic integrity standards.

Standing:

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval of the Department and of the Faculty Dean. This means that grades submitted by the instructor may be subject to revision. No grades are final until have been approved by the Department and Dean.

All components must be completed in order to obtain a passing grade in course

1. Audio-visual Presentation - 35% of final grade

- The task is to choose a **personal** problem that the student encounters in everyday life and to analyze how a specific **international** organization could address this problem.
- Duration: 10 minutes.
 - Format:
 - IN-PERSON (IN FRONT OF THE CLASS)
 - THE PRESENTATION CONSISTS OF **TWO** (2) SECTIONS:
 - **Creative segment:** the first 5 minutes of your presentation will consist of a **video**, in which you will do the following:
 - film a **FICTIONAL STORYLINE** which illustrates how an issue is a personal inconvenience to you and also how it is a problem for people in other countries, if not worldwide.

You must therefore create **ORIGINAL** content and film it. Do **NOT** submit a video of you simply reading off notes.

Illustration apps are not allowed to create your content. Human characters, who speak and interact with one another, is what is required to create your video's content.

You can ask fellow students, friends or family members to play characters in your storyline.

Note that you do not need special equipment to create videos: filming can be done with mobile phones and video editing apps are usually included with computer operating systems like Windows, or are otherwise available to download for free online.

International law tends to address serious topics, so **have fun with this part and try to make your audience laugh about your chosen problem!**

- **Analysis segment:** the remaining 5 minutes of your assignment will consist of a **formal presentation**, in which you do the following:
 - Describe – briefly - the global problem that derives from your personal problem.

- Describe how a **SPECIFIC** international organization addresses it, BOTH POSITIVELY AND NEGATIVELY.
- **Please refrain from selecting a generic IO for your analysis- for example, I would consider the choice of "the UN" or "NATO" to be a generic selection.**
- Explain the law - international or domestic - by which the organization selected has, up to now, addressed the global problem.
- Analyze the defects in the relevant law that are causing the problem; and
- Propose plausible solutions, based on law and case law, to improve the ability of the international organization to address the problem.

During this presentation, you will NOT be permitted to read from notes, neither written nor off a computer or phone screen.

Since this segment of the assignment is essentially about presenting a lecture to your colleagues and to me, summarizing your research and your arguments, it is recommended that you use presentation slides, such as Power Point, to convey your information.

HOWEVER, THE MAIN POINTS OF YOUR PRESENTATION MUST BE CONFINED TO ONLY ONE BULLET POINT OF TEXT ON EACH SLIDE. The remainder of each slide can display pictures or graphics to assist in conveying your point.

The ultimate goal of the exercise is to show me that you 1. can visualize the problem selected and 2. understand the research you have done on your topic. Reading off material that has been cut and pasted onto a screen does nothing to demonstrate your understanding of your research and as such will not merit marks.

• **PRESENTATION SUBMISSION DATES:**

- **THE DATES FOR SUBMITTING PRESENTATIONS WILL BE DETERMINED AS OF THE 1ST LECTURE, WHEN FINAL ENROLMENT IN THE COURSE CAN BE CONFIRMED.**
- **YOUR PRESENTATION DATE WILL BE ASSIGNED RANDOMLY.**
- **ONCE ASSIGNED, YOU MAY REQUEST A CHANGE OF DATE, ONLY IF A VACANT SPOT IS AVAILABLE ON THE SCHEDULE AND REQUESTS CAN BE MADE ONLY UP UNTIL 25TH SEPTEMBER.**
- **ALTERNATIVELY, YOU CAN ARRANGE WITH ONE OF YOUR COLLEAGUES TO SWAP PRESENTATION DATES. IF YOU DO SO, YOU NEED TO INFORM ME OF THE CHANGE RIGHT AWAY. OTHERWISE, I WILL ASSUME YOU ARE PRESENTING ON THE ORIGINAL DATE AND WILL GRADE YOU AS A NO-SHOW.**
- **NO CHANGES TO YOUR PRESENTATION DATE WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 25TH SEPTEMBER.**
- **FAILURE TO GIVE YOUR PRESENTATION ON AN ASSIGNED DATE WILL**

RESULT IN A GRADE OF “0” FOR THE PRESENTATION, NO EXCEPTIONS.

2. Open book final examination - 45% of final grade

- **To be scheduled during formal exam period: 9-21 December 2024**
- The goal of the final exam is to apply the course content to 1) solve a legal problem for a fictitious international organization and to 2) thoroughly discuss a thematic issue.
- **The final exam will be written online and IN-PERSON.**
- **Any student who does not write the final exam on the day it is scheduled, for whatever reason, must apply for a deferral.** Note that **there is no guarantee that your application will be granted.**
- **In order to write the exam, you will be permitted access to only 2 sources of material:**
 - The Top Hat text and the readings assigned in it
 - Any notes you may have taken during lecture **MUST BE CONTAINED IN A SINGLE WORD DOCUMENT**
- **The final exam will be E-proctored:** *please note that examinations in this course will use a remote proctoring service provided by Scheduling and Examination Services.*
- **E-proctoring:**
 - Prior to the final exam, you will be sent email from Scheduling and Exam Services regarding instructions for downloading the E-proctoring app COMAS.
 - **YOU MUST DOWNLOAD AND TEST THE SYSTEM BEFORE THE DAY OF THE EXAM. IF YOU ENCOUNTER ISSUES, YOU WILL BE ABLE TO CONTACT THE ONLINE EXAMS TEAM FOR HELP.**
 - **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT YOUR WEBCAM WILL BE VISIBLE DURING THE EXAM AND THAT THE SYSTEM CAN TAKE SCREENSHOTS DURING THE EXAM.**
 - **IT IS HIGHLY ADVISABLE TO LOG IN WELL BEFORE THE START OF THE EXAM ON EXAM DAY TO MAKE SURE EVERYTHING WORKS.**
 - **IT WILL THEREFORE NOT BE ACCEPTABLE FOR YOU TO CLAIM THAT YOU WERE DELAYED IN STARTING THE EXAM DUE TO TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES WITH THE E-PROCTORING SYSTEM OR THAT YOU WERE WAITING ON THE PHONE WITH TECH SUPPORT. NO EXTRA TIME WILL BE ACCORDED ON THIS BASIS.**
 - **FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH E-PROCTORING OBLIGATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED AN ACADEMIC INTEGRITY VIOLATION.**

3. Attempting questions in online text: 10% of final grade

4. Term Essay - 10% of final grade

The task for the Term Essay is to support the analysis of the IO that was made in the presentation

with research, primarily from legal sources.

- **Due on 6 Dec 2024** : upload to Brightspace
- **Length:** 10 pages, plus bibliography.
- **Use Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation (McGill Guide) at <https://libguides.ucalgary.ca/guides/mcgillguide>**
- **Use Canadian spelling only;** if you are going to use spell-checking applications to review your text, you should first ensure that the language settings on your computer are set to Canadian English or Multilingual Standard.

REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS

An extension can be granted only for the final Research paper.

The granting of extensions is determined by the instructor, who will confirm whether an extension is granted and the length of the extension. For requests for short-term extensions, you must speak in person to the instructor prior to the submission date.

Final exam deferrals must be applied for at the Registrar's Office. Please view the following link for more information and how to apply for a deferral: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/deferral/>

For more information regarding academic consideration for short-term incapacitation (illness, injury, or extraordinary circumstances beyond a student's control), please visit the following link: <https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/#academic-consideration-for-short-term-incapacitation>

LECTURE TOPIC SCHEDULE

11 Sep	Introduction and Overview
18 Sep	Essential features of international organizations Read: Introduction and Chapter #1
25 Sep	Legal Personality of International Organizations Read: Chapter #2
2 Oct	Structure and Membership of International Organizations Read: Chapter #3

9 Oct	Legal Powers of International Organizations Read: Chapter #4
16 Oct	Decisions made by International Organizations Read: Chapter #5A : Non-Judicial Decisions
23 Oct	Reading week, no class
30 Oct	Decisions made by International Organizations Read: Chapter #5B: International Judicial Institutions
6 Nov	Obligations of International Organizations Read: Chapter #6
13 Nov	Responsibility of International Organizations Read: Chapter #7
20 Nov	Immunities and Privileges of International Organizations Read: Chapter #8
27 Nov	The Multinational Corporation Read: Chapter #9
4 Dec	The International Organization as Employer Read: Chapter #10

Fall 2024 Sessional Dates and University Closures	
<i>Please find a full list of important academic dates on the calendar website:</i> https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/	
September 4, 2024	Fall term begins.
September 10, 2024	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in full winter and late winter courses.
September 30, 2024	Last day to withdraw from full Fall and Fall/Winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
October 14, 2024	Statutory holiday. University closed.
October 21-25, 2024	Fall break. No classes.
November 15, 2024	Last day for academic withdrawal from full fall and late fall courses.
November 22, 2024	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in full fall

	term or fall/winter undergraduate courses, before the official December final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
November 30, 2024	Last day for receipt of applications from potential winter (February) graduates.
December 6, 2024	Fall term ends.
	Last day of full fall and late fall classes.
	Classes follow a Monday schedule.
	Last day that can be specified by an instructor as a due date for term work for full and late fall courses.
	Last day for take home examinations to be assigned.
December 9-21, 2024	Final examinations in full fall and late fall courses and mid-term examinations in fall/winter courses will be held. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
December 21, 2024	All final take-home examinations are due on this day, with the exception of those conforming to the examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar.

DEPARTMENT POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

Please review the following webpage to ensure that your practices meet our Department's expectations, particularly regarding standard departmental protocols and academic integrity requirements:

<https://carleton.ca/law/student-experience-resources/>.

PLAGIARISM

The University Academic Integrity Policy defines plagiarism as “*presenting, whether intentionally or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one’s own.*” This includes reproducing or paraphrasing portions of someone else’s published or unpublished material, regardless of the source, and presenting these as one’s own without proper citation or reference to the original source. Examples of sources from which the ideas, expressions of ideas or works of others may be drawn from include but are not limited to: books, articles, papers, literary compositions and phrases, performance compositions, chemical compounds, artworks, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, material on the internet and/or conversations.

Examples of plagiarism include, but are not limited to:

- any submission prepared in whole or in part, by someone else, including the unauthorized use of generative AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT);
- using ideas or direct, verbatim quotations, paraphrased material, algorithms, formulae, scientific or mathematical concepts, or ideas without appropriate acknowledgment in any academic assignment;
- using another’s data or research findings without appropriate acknowledgement;
- submitting a computer program developed in whole or in part by someone else, with or without modifications, as one’s own; and
- failing to acknowledge sources through the use of proper citations when using another’s work and/or failing to use quotations marks.

Plagiarism is a serious offence that cannot be resolved directly by the course’s instructor. The Associate Dean of the Faculty conducts a rigorous investigation, including an interview with the student, when an instructor suspects a piece of work has been plagiarized. Penalties are not trivial. They can include a final grade of “F” for the course.

STATEMENT ON STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH

As a University student you may experience a range of mental health challenges that significantly impact your academic success and overall well-being. If you need help, please speak to someone. There are numerous resources available both on- and off-campus to support you.

For more information, please consult <https://wellness.carleton.ca/>

Emergency Resources (on and off campus):

- <https://carleton.ca/health/emergencies-and-crisis/emergency-numbers/>

Carleton Resources:

- Mental Health and Wellbeing: <https://carleton.ca/wellness/>
- Health & Counselling Services: <https://carleton.ca/health/>
- Paul Menton Centre: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>
- Academic Advising Centre (AAC): <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/>
- Centre for Student Academic Support (CSAS): <https://carleton.ca/csas/>
- Equity & Inclusivity Communities: <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Off Campus Resources:

- Distress Centre of Ottawa and Region: (613) 238-3311 or TEXT: 343-306-5550, <https://www.dcottawa.on.ca/>
- Mental Health Crisis Service: (613) 722-6914, 1-866-996-0991, <http://www.crisisline.ca/>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

The following statement must be included in your course outline:

“Carleton is committed to providing academic accessibility for all individuals. You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. The accommodation request processes, including information about the Academic Consideration Policy for Students in Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances, are outlined on the Academic Accommodations website (<https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline>).”

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows.

Pregnancy Obligation and Family-Status Related Accommodations

Write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details about the accommodation policy, visit the [Equity and Inclusive Communities \(EIC\)](#) website.

Religious Obligation

Write to me with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. For more details, please go to: <https://carleton.ca/equity/focus/discrimination-harassment/religious-spiritual-observances/>.

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities (PMC) provides services to students with Learning Disabilities (LD), psychiatric/mental health disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), chronic medical conditions, and impairments in mobility, hearing, and vision. If you have a disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact PMC at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. You can find the Paul Menton Centre online at: <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>

If you are already registered with the PMC, contact your PMC coordinator to send me your Letter of Accommodation at the beginning of the term, and no later than two weeks before the first in-class

scheduled test or exam requiring accommodation (if applicable). After requesting accommodation from PMC, meet with me to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC website for the deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable).

Survivors of Sexual Violence

As a community, Carleton University is committed to maintaining a positive learning, working and living environment where sexual violence will not be tolerated, and where survivors are supported through academic accommodations as per Carleton's Sexual Violence Policy. For more information about the services available at the university and to obtain information about sexual violence and/or support, visit: <https://carleton.ca/equity/sexual-assault-support-services>

Accommodation for Student Activities

Carleton University recognizes the substantial benefits, both to the individual student and for the university, that result from a student participating in activities beyond the classroom experience. Reasonable accommodation must be provided to students who compete or perform at the national or international level. Please contact your instructor with any requests for academic accommodation during the first two weeks of class, or as soon as possible after the need for accommodation is known to exist. Read more here: <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>.

For more information on academic accommodation, please visit: <https://students.carleton.ca/services/accommodation/>.

Academic Consideration for Medical and Other Extenuating Circumstances

Due to medical and other extenuating circumstances, students may occasionally be unable to fulfill the academic requirements of their course(s) in a timely manner. The University supports the academic development of students and aims to provide a fair environment for students to succeed academically. Medical and/or other extenuating circumstances are circumstances that are beyond a student's control, have a significant impact on the student's capacity to meet their academic obligations, and could not have reasonably been prevented.

Students must contact the instructor(s) as soon as possible, and normally no later than 24 hours after the submission deadline for course deliverables. If not satisfied with the instructor's decision, students can conduct an "informal appeal" to the Chair of the department within three (3) working days of an instructor's decision. We have created a webform specifically for appeals to the Chair, which can be found here: <https://carleton.ca/law/application-for-review-of-refusal-to-provide-academic-consideration/>. *Note: This form only applies to LAWS courses and is not the same as a formal appeal of grade.* More information about the academic consideration can be found [here](#).

End of Course Outline.