

**COURSE OUTLINE**

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<b>COURSE NUMBER - TITLE</b>	LAWS 3604 – INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
<b>SECTION:</b>	B
<b>TERM:</b>	Winter 2024
<b>PREREQUISITES:</b>	LAWS 2601 and 0.5 credit in LAWS at the 2000 level or PAPM 1000 and PSCI 2003.
<b>DAY &amp; TIME:</b>	Wednesdays 14:35 – 17:25
<b>DELIVERY METHOD:</b>	ONLINE / SYNCHRONOUS
<b>INSTRUCTOR (CONTRACT):</b>	Tara Ashtakala
<b>CONTACT INFORMATION:</b>	<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b> By appointment <b>EMAIL:</b> <a href="mailto:Tara.Ashtakala@carleton.ca">Tara.Ashtakala@carleton.ca</a>

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**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 B, “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 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.

You can visit the Top Hat Overview ( <https://success.tophat.com/s/article/Student-Top-Hat-Overview-and-Getting-Started-Guide> ) within the Top Hat Success Centre, which outlines how you will register for a Top Hat account, as well as providing a brief overview to get you up and running on the 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](mailto: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 online and synchronously via Zoom, on the day and at the time indicated above
- The text for each chapter in the interactive text indicates 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.
- 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 - 20% 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: maximum of 10 minutes.
  - Format: the presentation must be submitted in video format and consists of **two (2)** sections:
    - **Creative segment**: the first 5 minutes of your video should consist of a FICTIONAL STORYLINE illustrating:

- 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.

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 video must 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.

For this assignment, you will essentially be presenting a lecture to your colleagues and to

me, summarizing your research and your arguments.

As such, the use of audio-visual aids (eg Power Point slides) is strongly recommended

In this section, you must show yourself presenting your slides – this can be accomplished by using a picture-in-picture tool.

- **PRESENTATION SUBMISSION DATES: The dates for submitting presentations will be determined as of the 1<sup>st</sup> lecture, when final enrolment in the course can be confirmed.**

## 2. Term Essay - 25% of final grade

- essay due on **10 April 2024**; upload to Brightspace
- Length: 10 pages double-spaced, bibliography extra, proper legal citation required
- **Use Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation (McGill Guide) at <https://libguides.ucalgary.ca/c.php?g=255284&p=1703088>**
- **Canadian spelling only; this is not a joke.** 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).
- The task for the Term Essay is to conduct an in-depth scholarly examination of the problem outlined in the presentation, ie analyze the ability of an existing international organization to solve the global problem; and propose solutions, based in international or domestic law, to improve the organization's ability to do so, supported by law and case law.

## 3. Open book final examination - 45% of final grade

- **To be scheduled during formal exam period: 13-25 April 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, 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.** See the conditions for deferring an exam: <https://carleton.ca/registrar/deferral/>
- **The final exam will be E-proctored.** *e-Proctoring: please note that examinations in this course will use a remote proctoring service provided by Scheduling and Examination Services. You can find more information at <https://carleton.ca/ses/e-proctoring/#sect1>*

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

**LATE PENALTIES AND REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS:**

- Penalties for late submission of assignments will be 1 point/mark per day. This is based on fairness to the class members who turned in the assignment on time.
- The granting of extensions is determined by the instructor who will confirm whether an extension is granted and the length of the extension.
- **Extensions for longer than 7 days will normally not be granted.** In those extraordinary cases where extensions lasting longer than 7 days are granted, the student will be required to provide additional information to justify the longer extension (up to a maximum of 14 days).

**LECTURE TOPIC SCHEDULE**

<b>10 Jan</b>	<b>Introduction and Overview</b>
<b>17 Jan</b>	<b>Essential features of international organizations Read: Introduction and Chapter #1</b>
<b>24 Jan</b>	<b>Legal Personality of International Organizations Read: Chapter #2</b>
<b>31 Jan</b>	<b>Structure and Membership of International Organizations Read: Chapter #3</b>
<b>7 Feb</b>	<b>Legal Powers of International Organizations Read: Chapter #4</b>
<b>14 Feb</b>	<b>Decisions made by International Organizations Read: Chapter #5: section I “Non-Judicial Decisions” only</b>
<b>21 Feb</b>	<b>Reading week, no class</b>
<b>28 Feb</b>	<b>Decisions made by International Organizations Read: Chapter #5: section II “International Judicial Institutions” only</b>
<b>6 Mar</b>	<b>Obligations of International Organizations Read: Chapter #6</b>
<b>13 Mar</b>	<b>Responsibility of International Organizations Read: Chapter #7</b>
<b>20 Mar</b>	<b>Immunities and Privileges of International Organizations</b>

**Read: Chapter #8**

**27 Mar      The Multinational Corporation**  
**Read: Chapter #9**

**3 Apr        The International Organization as Employer**  
**Read: Chapter #10**  
**Review of Course**

<b>Winter 2024 Sessional Dates and University Closures</b>	
<i>Please find a full list of important academic dates on the calendar website: <a href="https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/">https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/</a></i>	
<b>January 8, 2024</b>	Winter term begins.
<b>January 19, 2024</b>	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) in full winter and late winter courses.
<b>January 31, 2024</b>	Last day to withdraw from full winter and the winter portion of fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment.
<b>February 19, 2024</b>	Statutory holiday. University closed.
<b>February 19-23, 2024</b>	Winter break. No classes.
<b>March 15, 2024</b>	Last day for academic withdrawal from full winter, late winter, and fall/winter courses.
<b>March 27, 2024</b>	Last day for summative tests or examinations, or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade, in full winter term or fall/winter undergraduate courses, before the official April final examination period (see examination regulations in the Academic Regulations of the University section of the Undergraduate Calendar/General Regulations of the Graduate Calendar).
<b>March 29, 2024</b>	Statutory holiday. University closed.
<b>April 10, 2024</b>	Winter term ends.
	Last day of full winter, late winter and fall/winter term classes.
	Classes follow a Friday schedule (full winter and later winter courses).
	Last day for handing in term work and the last day that can be specified by a course instructor as a due date for term work for full winter term and late winter courses.
	Last day for take home examinations to be assigned.
<b>April 13-25, 2024</b>	Final examinations in full winter, late winter and fall/winter term courses will be held. Examinations are normally held all seven days of the week.
<b>April 25, 2024</b>	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.

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## **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 unauthorised use of generative AI tools (eg 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.

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/>
- Empower Me: 1-844-741-6389, <https://students.carleton.ca/services/empower-me-counselling-services>
- Good2Talk: 1-866-925-5454, <https://good2talk.ca/>
- The Walk-In Counselling Clinic: <https://walkincounselling.com>

## **ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request, you can follow: <https://students.carleton.ca/course-outline/>

### **Pregnancy 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 accommodation regarding a formally-scheduled final exam, you must complete the Pregnancy Accommodation Form that can be found at: <https://carleton.ca/equity/contact/form-pregnancy-accommodation/>

### **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](mailto: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/>

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End of Course Outline.