

Course Outline

COURSE:	LAWS 2601T – Public International Law
TERM:	SUMMER 2020
PREREQUISITES:	1.0 credit from LAWS 1001, LAWS 1002, PSCI 1100, PSCI 1200, or PAPM 1000.
CLASS:	Day & Time: NA – Pre-recorded lectures will be available through the CUOL Video on Demand (VOD) service, at no extra cost. Please see release schedule provided in the outline below.
INSTRUCTOR:	Prof. Umut Özsu

Email: Umut.Ozsu@carleton.ca

CALENDAR COURSE DESCRIPTION

Examination of the role of law in contemporary international relations. Nature, history and sources of international law; international personality of states; status of international organizations and individuals; creation and effect of international obligations; importance and functions of law in the settlement of international disputes.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course provides an interdisciplinary introduction to public international law, and some of the key principles, theories and institutions associated with the international legal system. It addresses core topics such as the nature, sources and subjects of international law, and examines important contemporary legal challenges such as the use of force by states and the International Criminal Court. Throughout the lectures, the role and limits of international law in international relations will be discussed from a legal, political, and historical perspective.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

The principal recommended textbook for this course is:

John H. Currie, *Public International Law*, 2nd ed. (Irwin Law, 2008).

Limited copies of this textbook should be available at the university bookstore, as well as Octopus Books and other used bookstores in Ottawa. However, you will be able to complete this course without a copy of the textbook. I have made an exception to the general rule requiring textbooks in the case of this semester, given the difficulties of obtaining copies of any book, let alone a textbook, during the ongoing COVID-19 lockdown. This means that you will be able to complete the course on the basis of the online lectures alone (though you should note that you **will not** be able to complete the course successfully if you do not watch, absorb, and think about the contents of these lectures).

Please note that you may also find it useful to look at some of the materials in Malcolm D. Evans (ed.). *International Law*, 5th ed. (Oxford University Press, 2018) or Phillip M. Saunders et al., eds., *Kindred's International Law, Chiefly as Interpreted and Applied in Canada*, 9th ed. (Emond Montgomery, 2019). A limited number of copies of these texts should be available at the university bookstore and in used bookstores throughout the city.

Finally, please also note that the university bookstore is currently offering free delivery for books ordered online through its website. If you would like to obtain a copy of the Currie book through such means, please contact the university bookstore as soon as possible to see what arrangements can be made.

EVALUATION

Course evaluation

1. First case study (2000 words, excluding notes), worth 30% of your final grade and to be submitted by 11:30 pm on May 22.
2. Online quiz (40 multiple-choice questions), worth 30% of your final grade and to be completed on CULearn on June 1.
3. Second case study (2000 words, excluding notes), worth 40% of your final grade and to be submitted by 11:30 pm on June 15.

A note on case studies

These should take the form of a brief critical paper. The final product should demonstrate a thorough reading of the case and an ability to extract, contextualize and evaluate its most crucial elements. The purpose of this exercise is to give you (and you should demonstrate):

1. an understanding of the historical and theoretical backdrop against which the case emerged;
2. a clear grasp of the key concepts at play in the case;
3. an understanding of the importance of the case to international law;
4. an appreciation of the possible future implications for international law in the principal areas touched on in the case.

There is *no* winning “formula” for this paper. You are expected to read with care, and thoughtfully discuss the case, its foundations, and its implications. But you must always bear in mind that this is a course in public international law. So whatever “approach” you take to the paper must be able to significantly engage the principal concepts of international law at stake in the case.

You should be able to write an excellent paper with just the case assigned and the course text. A careful reading of each should offer you enough material to write a top-notch paper. That being said, this term’s assigned case has given rise to a very significant literature. Should students wish to incorporate other materials external to the required course readings, you are encouraged to do so. It is, however, not required. And note, long bibliographies are no substitute for serious engagement.

All submitted work must be original! Papers should be properly referenced. Either in-text or footnote citations are acceptable, just ensure you use one citation method and do so consistently. Each paper must also include a complete bibliography of all materials cited, regardless of whether bibliographic details are provided in footnotes. For guidance on these issues you may either refer to a style guide or use a book or an article as a guide. Thoroughness and consistency should be your aim. Students are also responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Departmental Policy and Procedure, most particularly in relation to regulations regarding due dates and plagiarism, as well as the University’s general regulations regarding instructional offences.

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 they have been approved by the Department and the Dean.

SCHEDULE

The sessions below are videotaped classes taught by Prof. Sean Richmond during the 2019–20 academic year. These videotaped classes will be made available on CULearn on a rolling basis. The dates provided here correspond to the dates on which the lectures were initially delivered.

Week 1: Wednesday, September 4, 2019

Course Overview

Week 2: Wednesday, September 11, 2019

The Nature of International Law

Week 3: Wednesday, September 18, 2019

Sources of International Law 1

Week 4: Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Sources of International Law 2

Week 5: Wednesday, October 2, 2019

The Use of Force

Week 6: Wednesday, October 9, 2019*International Legal Personality (Subjects of International Law)***Week 7: Wednesday, October 16, 2019***No Lecture***Week 8: Wednesday, October 25, 2019***There were no classes this week (due to the fall break)***Week 9: Wednesday, October 30, 2019***International Criminal Law***Week 10: Wednesday, November 6, 2019***International Law of Armed Conflict***Week 11: Wednesday, November 13, 2019***The Law of the Sea and the Law of Outer Space***Week 12: Wednesday, November 20, 2019***The Law of the Sea and the Law of Outer Space***Week 13: Wednesday, November 27, 2019***The United Nations***Week 14: Wednesday, December 4, 2019***Conclusion and Course Review*

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

You may need special arrangements to meet your academic obligations during the term. For an accommodation request the processes are as follows: <https://carleton.ca/equity/wp-content/uploads/Student-Guide-to-Academic-Accommodation.pdf>

Pregnancy obligation

Please contact 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, visit the Department of Equity and Inclusive Communities Services (EIC): <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

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, visit the Department of Equity and Inclusive Communities (EIC): <https://carleton.ca/equity/>

Academic Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

If you have a documented disability requiring academic accommodations in this course, please contact The Paul

Menton Centre (PMC) at 613-520-6608 or pmc@carleton.ca for a formal evaluation. 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 as soon as possible to ensure accommodation arrangements are made. Please consult the PMC Website for their deadline to request accommodations for the formally-scheduled exam (if applicable) <https://carleton.ca/pmc/>

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is presenting, whether intentional or not, the ideas, expression of ideas or work of others as one's own. Plagiarism 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, art works, laboratory reports, research results, calculations and the results of calculations, diagrams, constructions, computer reports, computer code/software, and material on the Internet. Plagiarism is a serious offence. *More information on the University's Academic Integrity Policy can be found at:* <https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-integrity/>

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 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/studentssupport/svpolicy/>

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. <https://carleton.ca/senate/wp-content/uploads/Accommodation-for-Student-Activities-1.pdf>

For more information on academic accommodation, please contact the departmental administrator or visit:

<https://students.carleton.ca/services/accommodation/>

Department Policy

The Department of Law and Legal Studies operates in association with certain policies and procedures. Please review these documents to ensure that your practices meet our Department's expectations.

<https://carleton.ca/law/current-students/>