Carleton University Department of Law and Legal Studies

Course Outline

COURSE: LAWS 2601 A

TERM: Fall 2025

PREREQUISITES: 1.0 credit from LAWS 1001, LAWS 1002, or PAPM 1001

and PSCI 2003

CLASS: Day & This class is entirely online. Recorded lectures will be

Time: posted on Brightspace (online asynchronous).

INSTRUCTOR: Prof. Umut Özsu

CONTACT: Office Wednesday, 11:45 am to 1:00 pm (online)

Hrs:

Email: Umut.Ozsu@carleton.ca

BRIGHTSPACE: https://brightspace.carleton.ca/d21/home/370925

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

Public international law has a complex history, one that lends itself to conflicting interpretations. It has also been the object of a variety of competing theoretical projects, most of which diverge radically on questions of form and substance. This course provides an historically and theoretically reinforced introduction to the basic rules, principles, and institutions of public international law.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

You will be introduced to the basic doctrinal and theoretical architecture of the field: statehood

and other modes of international legal personality; treaties, customs, and other sources of international law; the nature and assertion of jurisdiction; the relation between domestic and international law; and issues involving the threat or use of force.

Students will also be introduced to a number of rapidly developing sub-fields: international criminal law; state-building and humanitarian intervention; international human rights law; Indigenous peoples and international law; and international environmental law.

REQUIRED TEXTS

The principal required text for this course is Phillip M. Saunders et al., eds., *Kindred's International Law, Chiefly as Interpreted and Applied in Canada*, 10th ed. (Toronto: Emond Montgomery, 2025) ("Kindred").

I have asked the university bookstore to order digital as well as physical copies of this textbook. I am told that it will cost approximately \$99 to purchase access to the digital textbook for a duration of one year, approximately \$112 to purchase lifetime access to the digital textbook, and approximately \$138 to purchase the physical textbook.

I have asked the university library to put this textbook on reserve.

You may use copies of earlier editions of the textbook (e.g. the 9th edition, published in 2019). You should, however, be aware that the contents will not be precisely the same. This is not a big problem for our purposes. However, the order of chapters in the 10th edition, published this year, may be different from the order of chapters in an earlier edition. As such, if you do use an earlier edition, you should take care to correlate the assigned readings in this course with the corresponding chapters in the edition you are using.

Electronic copies of all other assigned readings in this course will be made available to you on Brightspace.

EVALUATION

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.

There are three formal evaluation components to this course:

Mid-term exam: 30% (Friday, October 17)

Essay: 35% (due by midnight on Monday, December 8)

Final exam: 35% (during the formally scheduled exam period)

These evaluation components operate as follows:

1. Mid-term exam

We will hold an online mid-term exam on Friday, October 17. It will consist of 40 multiple-choice questions. You will be responsible for all material covered in lectures (and on accompanying slides) until the date of the exam. You will have 60 minutes to complete the exam. You will be able to write the exam at a time of your own choosing on Friday, October 17.

2. Essay

You are required to prepare an essay on one of three topics that I will provide to you at the beginning of the course. This essay must be approximately 1500 words in total (not including footnotes), with a maximum upper limit of 2000. It must have a clear thesis, be driven by a structured argument, and draw upon at least some of the cases, issues, theories, debates, and/or questions that we have examined in the course.

Be sure to adhere to a consistent style of citation throughout the entirety of your paper. I do not care which style of citation you choose to employ. My own preference tends to be the system set out in the *Canadian Guide to Uniform Legal Citation*, 9th edition (Toronto: Carswell, 2018), known generally as the "McGill Guide". But I am not sticky on your choice of citation style. Whichever style of citation you employ, be sure to do so correctly and consistently.

The essay will be due by midnight on Monday, December 8. It must be submitted electronically via Brightspace by this deadline.

3. Final exam

We will hold a final exam during the formally scheduled exam period at the end of the semester. The final exam will consist of 60 multiple-choice questions. It will be a "cumulative" exam, which is to say that you will be responsible for all material covered in class. You will have 90 minutes to complete the exam.

All components must be successfully completed in order to get a passing grade.

LATE PENALTIES AND REQUESTS FOR EXTENSIONS

The granting of extensions is at the discretion of the instructor, who will confirm whether an extension is approved and its duration. For information about requesting short-term or long-term extensions, deferrals for final exams, or academic consideration due to illness, injury, or other extraordinary circumstances, please visit the Academic Consideration Policy page and complete the relevant forms as required. All requests must be submitted to the instructor before the assignment due date or, in the case of exam deferrals, directly to the Registrar's Office. Full details and instructions can be found here: https://carleton.ca/registrar/academic-consideration-policy/.

Final Grade Approval

Standing in a course is determined by the course instructor subject to the approval 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 Dean.

SCHEDULE

Lecture

Topic and Reading Assignment

Week of Monday, September 1, 2025	General introduction
Week of Monday, September 8, 2025	Treaties, Customs, and Other Sources of International Law (Kindred, ch. 1)
Week of Monday, September 15, 2025	Statehood, Recognition, and International Legal Personality (Kindred, ch. 2)
Week of Monday, September 22, 2025	Jurisdiction (Kindred, ch. 4)
Week of Monday, September 29, 2025	Domestic Law and International Law (Kindred, ch. 3)
Week of Monday, October 6, 2025	Use of Force (Kindred, ch. 6)
Week of Monday, October 13, 2025	International Criminal Law (Kindred, ch. 6)
Week of Monday, October 20, 2025	[Fall break, no classes]
Week of Monday, October 27, 2025	State-Building and Humanitarian Intervention (readings on Brightspace)
Week of Monday, November 3, 2025	International Human Rights Law (readings on Brightspace)

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Week of Monday, November 10, 2025	Indigenous Peoples and International Law (readings on Brightspace)
Week of Monday, November 17, 2025	International Environmental Law (Kindred, ch. 10)
Week of Monday, November 24, 2025	Final exam preparation

POLICY ON PERMISSIBILITY OF SUBMITTING SAME WORK MORE THAN ONCE, PERMISSIBILITY OF GROUP OR COLLABORATIVE WORK, AND PERMISSIBILITY OF USING GENERATIVE AI

Permissibility of Submitting Substantially the Same Piece of Work for Academic Credit

Students are strictly prohibited from submitting any work that has been previously submitted for academic credit in another course. Any such submission will be treated as a violation of academic integrity, and the student will be referred to the university's academic integrity office for review. Re-using any portion of previous work, regardless of its extent, will be treated as a violation of academic integrity.

Cooperation or Collaboration

Students are not permitted to cooperate or collaborate on any academic assignments unless explicitly stated by the instructor. Any unauthorized collaboration will be treated as a violation of academic integrity. This policy applies to all tests, exams, and individual assignments. Proofreading by others is not allowed. Proofreading by others is not allowed.

Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools

Students may use AI tools like ChatGPT, but only in specific, limited ways. AI tools can be used to assist with tasks such as gathering ideas, researching initial sources, or proofreading a final draft for grammar and style. However, students are not allowed to use AI to organize or communicate their core ideas. The focus of the course is on developing original thought and critical thinking skills, so AI should not be relied upon for creating the main content of an assignment. Any use of AI must be clearly documented and cited, including the prompts used and how the tool assisted in the process.

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENTAL POLICIES

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://wellness.carleton.ca/get-help-now/

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

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 (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 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 inclass 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.

Fall 2025 Sessional Dates and University Closures		
Please find a full list of important academic dates on the calendar website: https://calendar.carleton.ca/academicyear/		
September 3, 2025	Fall term begins.	
September 16, 2025	Last day for registration and course changes (including auditing) for fall, and fall/winter courses.	
September 30, 2025	Last day to withdraw from fall term and fall/winter courses with a full fee adjustment (financial withdrawal).	
October 13, 2025	Statutory holiday. University closed.	
October 20-24, 2025	Fall break. No classes.	
November 15, 2025	Last day for academic withdrawal from fall courses.	
	Last day to request formal exam accommodations for fall, and fall/winter examinations to the Paul Menton Centre for Students with Disabilities.	
November 24, 2025	Last day for summative tests or examinations or formative tests or examinations totaling more than 15% of the final grade in the fall or fall/winter before the official examination period.	
December 5, 2025	Fall term ends.	
	Last day of fall term classes.	
	Classes follow a Monday schedule.	
	Last day for take home examinations to be assigned.	
December 6-7, 2025	No classes or examinations take place.	
December 8-20, 2025	Final examinations in fall term courses and mid-term examinations in fall/winter courses will be held.	
December 20, 2025	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.	
December 24, 2025 – January 2, 2025	University closed.	