INTERNATIONAL LAW

Course Learning Objectives and Assessment

1. To teach the essentials of positive international law against the background of the realities of international politics and the normative requirements of international law.

2. To improve the student's analytical ability and capacity for effective oral presentation through a modified form of the "case method" typically followed in law schools.

For this 3-credit course, to achieve its learning objectives, students are expected to ATTEND ALL LECTURES, to view all weekly online assignments (75 minutes per week), and to devote an additional 6 hours per week studying and working on written assignments.

Required Readings

1. Essays and Other Materials in Electronic Format
   - All materials are available in the course’s Canvas site.

   - Available in the course’s Canvas site.
   - Casebook may be checked out of UW system libraries: KZ1242 .I58 1993
   - U.S. Supreme Court, ICJ and PCIJ opinions may also be accessed online from the “Links to Legal Resources” in the “Legal Resources” section of this course's Canvas site.

Course Requirements and Important Dates

1. Attendance at all face-to-face class meetings. Dates of face-to-face class meetings are indicated below
2. Briefing of all 30 assigned cases. 30 case briefs must be submitted on time to the course’s Canvas site’s appropriate “Drop Box” (see below, and Canvas site for details)
3. Viewing of assigned, online multimedia materials and weekly identification of “muddiest point” (see below, and Canvas site for details)
4. Active participation in online discussion (see below, and Canvas site for details)
5. Two examinations - Thursday, February 27, 2019; Thursday, April 2, 2019
6. Final examination - Tuesday, May 12, 2019 at 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM
7. Thursday, January 23, 2019 – first face-to-face class meeting
8. Thursday, May 7, 2019 – last face-to-face class meeting before final examination
9. Thursday, March 19, 2019 – Spring Recess, no class meeting
10. Please note the Add/Drop Deadlines for this course: https://uwm.edu/onestop/dates-and-deadlines/interactive-adddrop-calendar/
Final Grades will be based on the following formula:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Learning Objective</th>
<th>Assessment</th>
<th>% of Final Grade</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understanding of international law case decisions (relevant facts, rules and legal rationales)</td>
<td>On-time submission of CASE BRIEFS of thirty (30) assigned international law cases. Please see “The ‘Case Brief’ Assignment” document for more information.</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>(a) Understanding of substantive international law materials presented in online mini-lectures; and (b) identification of “muddiest points” in those mini-lectures</td>
<td>By submission to Canvas, weekly identification of a unique “MUDDIEST POINT” from that week’s mini-lecture. Please see “The ‘Muddiest Point’ Assignment” document for more information.</td>
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<td>By peer group discussion, enhanced understanding of: (a) International law case decisions; and (b) Substantive materials presented in online mini-lectures</td>
<td>Using dedicated Canvas online discussion board, WEEKLY DISCUSSION of the given week’s assigned cases and substantive materials presented in online mini-lectures. Please see “The ‘Online Discussion’ Assignment” document for more information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Application of case (and other) international law rules and principles to new hypothetical scenarios</td>
<td>EXAM 1 (20 possible points)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application of case (and other) international law rules and principles to new hypothetical scenarios</td>
<td>EXAM 2 (20 possible points)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application of case (and other) international law rules and principles to new hypothetical scenarios</td>
<td>EXAM 3 (30 possible points)</td>
<td>30</td>
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Calculation of Final Course Grade

At the end of the semester, a course grade scale (an “A” = * points, etc.) will be determined. Some basic principles of that determination:

1. The instructor does not use a “standard” grade scale/distribution. The grade scale will be based on the performance of all enrolled students (i.e., a “curve.”). Typically, each semester’s scale varies, because student performance usually varies to some degree.

2. The course grade scale for Pol Sci 316 has historically proven fairly generous. Examples are offered here only as a reference – this semester’s final grade scale could prove quite different.

Over 6 semesters, the average “lowest point total” to earn a “B-“ was “73” out of 100 possible points. The lowest point total to earn a “B-“ for Pol Sci 316 was “70” (Spring 2014), “72” (Spring 2012, Fall 2010, Spring 2009), “73” (Fall 2007), and “77” (Fall 2008).

Over 6 semesters, the average “lowest point total” to earn a "C-“ was “64” out of 100 possible points. The lowest point total to earn a "C-“ for Pol Sci 316 was “61” (Spring 2014), “63” (Spring 2012, Fall 2010, Spring 2009), “64” (Fall 2007), and “68” (Fall 2008).
Conceptual Outline of Course

I. THE NATURE, SCOPE, AND STATUS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW
   A. Introduction
   B. Is International Law "Law?"
   C. The Case Method
   D. Custom as a Source of International Law
   E. Treaties, General Principles, and Other Sources
   F. The Relationship of International Law to Domestic Law

II. THE SUBJECTS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW
   A. Statehood and Recognition
   B. Non-state Entities and Self-Determination

III. SOVEREIGNTY OVER LAND TERRITORY
   A. Land and Territorial Sovereignty

IV. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS
   A. General Principles and Reservations
   B. Interpretation
   C. Invalidity and Termination

V. JURISDICTION
   A. General Principles of Jurisdiction
   B. Conflicts of Jurisdiction

VI. INTERNATIONAL CRIMES AND HUMAN RIGHTS
   A. International Criminality and International Courts
   B. The Rwanda Case

VII. ENFORCEMENT AND IMMUNITY FROM JURISDICTION
   A. Enforcement Jurisdiction and Extradition
   B. Jurisdiction over the Irregularly Obtained
   C. Diplomatic Immunity
   D. Sovereign Immunity
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>January 20</th>
<th>January 23</th>
<th>January 27</th>
<th>January 30</th>
<th>January 30, 31</th>
<th>January 31</th>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>January 29</td>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>January 30</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
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<td>Week 3</td>
<td>February 5</td>
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<td>Week 4</td>
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<td>Week 5</td>
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<td>Week 6</td>
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<td>Week 7</td>
<td>March 4</td>
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**FIRST EXAM** (Covers material only from weeks of January 20, 27 and February 3, 10, 17)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 8</th>
<th>March 9</th>
<th>Week 9</th>
<th>March 23</th>
<th>Week 10</th>
<th>March 30</th>
<th>Week 11</th>
<th>April 6</th>
<th>Week 12</th>
<th>April 13</th>
<th>Week 13</th>
<th>April 20</th>
<th>Week 14</th>
<th>April 27</th>
<th>Week 15</th>
<th>May 4</th>
<th>FINAL EXAM WEEK</th>
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<tr>
<td>(1) Land and Territorial Sovereignty</td>
<td>March 11</td>
<td>(1) Treaty General Principles &amp; Reservations (2) Treaty Interpretation, Invalidity, &amp; Termination</td>
<td>March 25</td>
<td>(1) Jurisdiction: General Principles</td>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>(1) Conflicts of Jurisdiction</td>
<td>April 8</td>
<td>Int'l Criminality and Int'l Courts Streaming Video: “The Ghosts of Rwanda”</td>
<td>April 15</td>
<td>(1) Enforcement Jurisdiction and Extradition (2) Jurisdiction over the Irregularly Obtained</td>
<td>April 22</td>
<td>(1) Immunity of State Representatives – Diplomatic Immunity (2) Sovereign Immunity</td>
<td>April 29</td>
<td>Review: Students are strongly encouraged to use online discussion to help prepare for final exam</td>
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<td>Muddiest Point – 7</td>
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<td>Muddiest Point – 8</td>
<td>Muddiest Point – 9</td>
<td>Muddiest Point – 10</td>
<td>Muddiest Point - 11</td>
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<td>Int'l Criminality and Int'l Courts Streaming Video: “The Ghosts of Rwanda”</td>
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<td>March 12</td>
<td>March 26</td>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>April 16, 17</td>
<td>April 16</td>
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<td>March 12, 13</td>
<td>March 26, 27</td>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>April 9, 10</td>
<td>April 16, 17</td>
<td>April 16</td>
<td>Int'l Criminality and Int'l Courts Streaming Video: “The Ghosts of Rwanda”</td>
<td>April 23, 24</td>
<td>April 23</td>
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<td>Tuesday, May 12 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM – FINAL EXAM</td>
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GENERAL UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT, AND INSTRUCTOR COURSE-RELATED POLICIES

1. **Academic conduct.** In our course’s Canvas site, please view my statement on “Proper Academic Conduct.” Policies for addressing students cheating on exams or plagiarism can be found at the following: [https://uwm.edu/deanofstudents/conduct/academic-misconduct/](https://uwm.edu/deanofstudents/conduct/academic-misconduct/)

2. **Students with disabilities.** The University of Wisconsin Milwaukee supports the right of all enrolled students to a full and equal educational opportunity. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Wisconsin State Statute (36.12) require that students with disabilities be reasonably accommodated in instruction and campus life. Reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities is a shared faculty and student responsibility. Students are expected to inform faculty of their need for instructional accommodations by the end of the third week of the semester, or as soon as possible after a disability has been incurred or recognized. Faculty [I], will work either directly with the student or in coordination with the Accessibility Resource Center to identify and provide reasonable instructional accommodations. Disability information, including instructional accommodations as part of a student’s educational record, is confidential and protected under FERPA. Verification of disability, class standards, the policy on the use of alternate materials and test accommodations can be found at the following: [https://uwm.edu/arc/forms-and-policies/](https://uwm.edu/arc/forms-and-policies/)

3. **Religious observances.** Policies regarding accommodations for absences due to religious observance are found at the following: [https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%201-2.%20Accommodation%20of%20Religious%20Beliefs.pdf](https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%201-2.%20Accommodation%20of%20Religious%20Beliefs.pdf)

4. **Students called to active military duty.** Accommodations for absences due to call-up of reserves to active military duty should be noted. [https://uwm.edu/onestop/students-called-to-active-duty/](https://uwm.edu/onestop/students-called-to-active-duty/)

5. **Incompletes.** The conditions for awarding an incomplete to graduate and undergraduate students can be found at the following: [https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/S31.pdf](https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/S31.pdf)

6. **Discriminatory conduct** (such as sexual harassment). Definitions of discrimination, harassment, abuse of power, and the reporting requirements of discriminatory conduct are found at the following: [https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%205-2.%20Sexual%20Violence%20and%20Sexual%20Harassment%20Policy.pdf](https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%205-2.%20Sexual%20Violence%20and%20Sexual%20Harassment%20Policy.pdf)

7. **Complaint procedures.** Students may direct complaints to the head of the academic unit or department in which the complaint occurs. If the complaint allegedly violates a specific university policy, it may be directed to the head of the department or academic unit in which the complaint occurred or to the appropriate university office responsible for enforcing the policy. The Department Chairperson of Political Science is Dr. Sara Benesh <sbenesh@uwm.edu, 414-229-6468>.

8. **Grade appeal procedures.** Procedures for student grade appeal appear at the following: [https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/S_28_Grade_Appe_by_Students.pdf](https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/S_28_Grade_Appe_by_Students.pdf)

9. **Final examination policy.** Policies regarding final examinations can be found at the following: [https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%201-9.%20Final%20Examinations.pdf](https://apps.uwm.edu/secu-policies/storage/other/SAAP%201-9.%20Final%20Examinations.pdf)

10. **Instructor’s General examination policy.** Students are required to take course examinations at scheduled times. Makeup examinations will be given under **documented, extenuating circumstances only**, including: (1) physical illness of student - - doctor's excuse required; (2) death of family member; and (3) religious observance.

12. **Urgent contact.** The instructor requests that you do not call him at his home. If you have an urgent concern, please send him an e-mail message at rjbeck@uwm.edu.

13. **Mailbox.** By Department policy, student assignments will not be accepted in the Political Science Office.

14. **Technology.** Computer, printer, Internet or digital storage media (e.g., USB memory keys) failures are not acceptable excuses for a late assignment. Please make backup copies of your computer files, print out hard copies of assignments, and submit assignments early. See discussion of “The Hybrid Course and Technology Expectations” for further details.

15. **Campus Safety & Health:** See the dedicated website at https://uwm.edu/health-safety/ for information on emergency and routine safety and communications. All students are encouraged to enroll in the S.A.F.E. Alert system to receive emergency-information text message alerts. All students are automatically signed up to receive email alerts at their uwm.edu email accounts.

16. **“Extra credit.”** The option of extra-credit work is NOT offered. The rationale: if an extra-credit option were offered to any one student in my class, that option would need in fairness to be offered to every student in class. In the past, when an extra-credit option has been offered to every student, the students with the highest course grades have typically submitted the extra-credit assignment, too. Because the final grade is curved, though, this has had two negative results: (a) every student who submitted the extra credit was NOT helped -- because the curve was simply raised; and (b) persons who did not submit the extra-credit were hurt. Thus, extra-credit became either an "extra assignment" for those students who completed the assignment or a "grade-reducer" for those students who did not complete the assignment.