FSU Policy on Electronic Mail: Fayetteville State University provides to each student, free of charge, an electronic mail account (username@uncfsu.edu) that is easily accessible via the Internet. The university has established FSU email as the primary mode of correspondence between university officials and enrolled students. Inquiries and requests from students pertaining to academic records, grades, bills, financial aid, and other matters of a confidential nature must be submitted via FSU email. Inquiries or requests from personal email accounts are not assured a response. The university maintains open-use computer laboratories throughout the campus that can be used to access electronic mail.

Rules and regulations governing the use of FSU email may be found at http://www.uncfsu.edu/PDFs/EmailPolicyFinal.pdf

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS:


Additional Recommended Readings


COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course introduces students of international law to the history, basic character, general principles and specific rules of international law and diplomacy. In other words, it examines the nature and sources of international law, treaties; structure and legal authority of major international organizations (notably the United Nations and select regional organizations like the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Organization of American States (OAS), the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) etc.

Also, legal insights are given with regards to the formation of other economic Unions and relations which are designed on the basis of international law and sovereignty rights. They include the European Union, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) etc. This course also
examines the nature of the subjects of international law (states, transnational organizations etc.), and the recognition of territory, nationality, jurisdiction, immunities, state responsibilities and other collateral obligations, international claims and legal restrictions on the international use of force.

POLI-432 is fundamental to the subfield of international Law and Organization. It provides the student with a working knowledge of the basic principles which members of the international system have used to channel and restrain what would otherwise be completely an anarchic state behavior. These principles provide the assumptions on which general and regional international organizations operate and affect state behavior. They also provide broad perspective for the study of law of war.

Moreover, this course provides a valuable reinforcement for the sub-field of foreign policy and diplomacy since it explains the consciously predictable elements usually common to the behavior of most states. It is equally of value to the student interested in the subfields of political theory and political ideologies, again, by virtue of the element of limited predictability which international law and customs impart to the ”why” as well as the ”what” of state behavior.

Further, and in terms of style and organization, this course offers an adroit selection of excerpted cases, questions and problems. It also presents or introduces us to interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary materials and perspectives, such as economics and international relations theory. Thus, it blends current global issues and thinking alongside traditional concepts and theories. Finally, it addresses major developments in international law and new issues and challenges arising from developments in the UN, African Union, U.S., NATO and other global hotspots such as Afghanistan, North Korea, and Iraq.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

At the completion of this course, the student of International law should demonstrate:

1. Familiarity with various explanations of the origins and significance of international law.
2. A basic understanding of state jurisdiction, including territories and boundaries (aerial and maritime limits) and of international areas.
3. A comprehension of the traditional Western concept of the state, including state personality and obligations as well as the relationship between the state and the individual under international law.
4. A knowledge of the principles behind the laws of war and neutrality.
5. An awareness of the future possibilities of international law, the Unipolar (American) and third world variants of international law, and the inherent conflicts between natural law and UN Charter provisions and interpretations.
6. An ability to apply knowledge of these fundamental fields of international law to salient international legal problems of the day.

EVALUATIONS AND GRADING:

Three main evaluations will be required in this course. Tests 1 and 2 will test the students' grasp of the subject matter and especially the theoretical themes that characterize the early chapters of the text.

The third evaluation will be a term paper of about 8-12 pages (typed) and with appropriate bibliographical citations. Students are advised to develop their final research paper around the topics present/discussed in class since it will provide them with a logical continuum and an opportunity to master the issue much better. Such areas of research could be developed by students who later opt for graduate work in their theses or dissertations. The instructor must agree to the topic, scope and approach of research before a student proceeds.
The distribution of the test scores will be as follows:

1. Exam 1 (Midterm) = 33.33%
2. Exam 2 = 33.33%
3. Research Paper = 33.33%

Grading will be based on a four-point scale and as follows:

A = 92 - 100
B = 83 - 91
C = 73 - 82
D = 64 - 72
F = 63 - 0

INCOMPLETE GRADES:

The grade of "I" is assigned when a student fails to complete some specific course requirements or assignment (term papers, reports, presentations or examinations) while in good standing (maintaining a passing grade). Failure to complete the requirements must be for reasons beyond the student's control like sickness, death in family, university-related activities - sports, choir, academic debates, field trips etc.)

In case an "I" is assigned, it is the responsibility of the student to initiate action to remove it in a timely fashion. Otherwise, the grade reverts to an "F". An "I" grade is supposed to be removed before expiration of the first nine weeks of the student in a consequent spring or fall semester of enrollment or within 12 months of the last day of the semester or summer session in which the "I" was received, whichever comes first. (See FSU catalog)

CLASS ATTENDANCE:

Students are encouraged to attend classes regularly and promptly. It is expected that students should only absent themselves from classes when it involves participation in University sponsored activities, illness, family emergencies, legal obligations like court appearances and other civic duties like voting and serving on juries. Under the mentioned circumstances, it is advised that the student notify the instructor in advance or when impossible, explain reasons for an absence immediately upon resumption of normal activities. This is important because it not only explains the status of the student, but encourages the instructor to prepare a make-up of work the student has already missed.

CHEATING/ PLAGIARISM:

Students are strongly warned against plagiarism, which according to Webster's Collegiate Dictionary "is an act intended to commit literary theft; present as new and authentic an idea or production derived from an existing source." In applying this scenario to our reality, plagiarism includes copying other person's works without giving them credit through citation, submitting other people's papers, cheating in examinations etc. Violations of this rule by any student will automatically earn him a grade of "F".

COURSE OUTLINE

Chapters / Topical contents
1. What is international law
2. The creation of international norms, treaties, customary law, international organizations and private norm-creation
3. International law in the United states
4. International dispute resolution
5. States and other major entities
6. Foreign Sovereign Immunity and the Act of state Doctrine
7. Allocation of Legal authority among states
8. International human rights
9. Law of the Sea
10. International Environmental law
11. Use of Force and Arms control
12. International criminal law

JOURNALS:

Students of international law are encouraged to read the following periodicals in order to expand their horizon on issues in the field. The journals are available in major academic libraries: This list is in no way exhaustive.

1. THE AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW
2. NATURE RESOURCES JOURNAL
3. INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW QUARTERLY
4. OCEAN DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL LAW
5. INTERNATIONAL LAWYER
6. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION
7. JOURNAL OF LAW AND ECONOMICS
8. JOURNAL OF MARITIME LAW AND COMMERCE
9. TEXAS LAW REVIEW
10. VIRGINIA JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW
11. MARINE TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY JOURNAL
12. YALE LAW JOURNAL
13. THE BRITISH YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW
14. UN MONTHLY CHRONICLE
15. JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND POLITICS
16. SOVIET YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

SUGGESTED READINGS


2. O. Schachter, INTERNATIONAL LAW IN THEORY AND PRACTICE. Boston: Martinus Nijhoff, 1991)


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