

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Semester: Fall 2022

Course Number: PSCI 4363

Instructor: Dr. Sivaram Cheruvu	Time: Tuesday 4:00 - 6:45 PM
Email: sivaram.cheruvu@utdallas.edu	Place: JSOM 1.107

Course Description: This course analyzes the concepts and bases of public international law. The first part of the course explores competing perspectives on international law and politics, namely how the law is made, broken, and upheld. The second part of the course focuses on property rights and economic exchange. This signifies the specific standards and rules that govern international commerce. The third part of the course covers peace, war, and new challenges and developments in international law. Topics in this section of the course include the use of force, human rights, and environmental protection.

Objectives: Students will become knowledgeable in the major themes within the academic literature on international law. By engaging with contemporary events, students will be able to apply what they learn in class to the real-world outcomes. Other objectives include:

- To provide students with the conceptual and theoretical foundations for international law analysis
- To empower students to apply these contexts in both contemporary and historical settings
- To develop students analytical and research skills through critical reading and written application assignments

Office Hours: By appointment (Virtual or In Person in GR 3.802B)

Required Books:

- Johns, Leslie. 2022. Politics and International Law Making, Breaking, and Upholding Global Rules. Cambridge University Press, <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108981149>
- Twitter account for the book: twitter.com/PoliticsIntlLaw

Course Format: This course will be primarily lecture-based. Students are expected to have completed the assigned readings in preparation for lecture.

Grading Policy:

1. **Participation (20%):** Students are expected to actively participate in class each week. Students will have the option of commenting on the readings or opting into cold-calling.
 - **Commentary:** Each student is required to select four class sessions during the semester in which they will write a paragraph and submit at least two discussion questions on blackboard based on the readings for that class. Each commentary is worth 25% of the participation grade. A google document will be circulated after the second class session for students to sign up for the sessions in which they will submit their discussion questions. Students must submit their commentary by 8 am the day of class. Students who choose this option will not be cold called. Those who choose to stream the lecture on Microsoft Teams will be automatically enrolled in this option.

- **Cold Calling:** Students will be called on at random during class sessions to answer questions or provide their thoughts on the topic at hand. If a student is cold called and they are not present in class for the session they will lose 10% of their participation grade. Students who choose this option do not have to provide commentary on the readings for four different sessions.
2. **Exams (40%):** Students will take two non-cumulative exams during the semester. The exams will be on elearning.
 3. **Final Paper or Final Exam (40%):** Students will have the option to complete a final paper assignment for the class will be due on the final class session or take a final exam. The paper will 8 - 10 pages in length, double space, 1 inch margin, and 12pt font not including the bibliography. Students are encouraged to ask any questions regarding this final assignment in office hours. Alternatively students can take a cumulative final exam on the last day of class.
 4. **Final Exam Exemption:** Students will be exempt from the final exam if they fulfill the following criteria:
 - They achieve an average score of 90% or higher across Exam 1 and Exam 2
 - They have a participation grade of 90% or higher following exam 2:
 - Students who sign up for reading commentaries must submit all four reading commentaries by Exam 2
 - Students who sign up for cold calling are only allowed to have been absent from class once when cold called
 - They submit four additional reading commentaries between Exam 2 and the Final Exam **OR** they sign up for cold calling and are not absent when cold called

5. Grading Scale:

- **A** 92.45 – 100
- **A-** 89.45 – 92.44
- **B+** 87.45 – 89.44
- **B** 82.45 – 87.44
- **B-** 79.45 – 82.44
- **C+** 77.45 – 79.44
- **C** 72.45 – 77.44
- **C-** 69.45 – 72.44
- **D** 64.45 – 69.44
- **F** 0 – 64.44

Class Attendance:

The University's attendance policy requirement is that individual faculty set their course attendance requirements. Regular and punctual class attendance is expected. Students who fail to attend class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. In some courses, instructors may have special attendance requirements; these should be made known to students during the first week of classes.

Class Participation:

Regular class participation is expected. Students who fail to participate in class regularly are inviting scholastic difficulty. A portion of the grade for this course is directly tied to your

participation in this class. It also includes engaging in group or other activities during class that solicit your feedback on homework assignments, readings, or materials covered in the lectures (and/or labs). Class participation is documented by faculty. Successful participation is defined as consistently adhering to University requirements, as presented in this syllabus. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Class Recordings:

Students are expected to follow appropriate University policies and maintain the security of passwords used to access recorded lectures. Unless the Office of Student AccessAbility has approved the student to record the instruction, students are expressly prohibited from recording any part of this course. Recordings may not be published, reproduced, or shared with those not in the class, or uploaded to other online environments except to implement an approved Office of Student AccessAbility accommodation. Failure to comply with these University requirements is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Academic Support Resources:

The information contained in the following link lists the University's academic support resources for all students. Please see <http://go.utdallas.edu/academic-support-resources>.

UT Dallas Syllabus Policies and Procedures:

The information contained in the following link constitutes the University's policies and procedures segment of the course syllabus. Please review the catalog sections regarding the credit/no credit or pass/fail grading option and withdrawal from class. Please go to <http://go.utdallas.edu/syllabus-policies> for these policies.

Course Schedule

Class 1 August 23: Introduction: Competing Perspectives on International Law and Politics

- Johns, Chapter 1

Class 2 August 30: Making International Law

- Johns, Ch. 2

Class 3 September 6: Breaking International Law

- Johns, Ch. 3

Class 4 September 13: Upholding International Law

- Johns, Ch. 4

Class 5 September 20: **First Exam**

Class 6 September 27: Law of the Sea

- Johns, Ch. 5

Class 7 October 4: Trade

- Johns, Ch. 6

Class 8 October 11: Investment

- Johns, Ch. 7

Class 9 October 18: Human Rights

- Johns, Ch. 8

Class 10 October 25: **Second Exam**

Class 11 November 1: Use of Force

- Johns, Ch. 9

Class 12 November 8: Armed Conflict

- Johns, Ch. 10

Class 13 November 15: Criminal Responsibility

- Johns, Ch. 11

Class 14 November 29: Environmental Protection

- Johns, Ch. 12

Class 15 December 6: **Final Exam or Final Paper Due at beginning of class**