

GOVT 446-002
International Law and Organization
Fall 2022
Dr Teesta Ghosh
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TR 1:30 -2:45 PM (Van Metre Hall 477)

Office Hrs: By Appointment

Course Objectives: This course will examine issues in world politics from the perspective of international law. Besides analyzing the philosophical grounding of international law; role of multilateral institutions such as the UN in anchoring the international legal system, how international tribunals adjudicate international law, the course will look at how international law is applied to different issue-areas ranging from the use of force, diplomacy, human rights, environment and international trade issues. The objectives of such an exercise would be two fold: to ascertain how international law governs these areas and to identify the problems that hinder the operation of international law. This course will highlight the nexus between international law and international politics. An interrelated focus of the course would be to demonstrate how international politics shapes the operation of international law. During the course of the semester the students will learn to read legal cases, interpret treaty language and work on hypotheticals. Finally we would end by critically evaluating the future trajectory of international law in the coming decades.

Evaluations:

In class quizzes (2)	20% (TBA)
Midterm	30%
Final	30%
Paper	15%
Participation and Attendance	5%

Grading Scale:

A+ (100) B+ (86-89) C+ (75-79) D (60-69)

A (94-99) B (83-85) C (73-74) F (59 or less)

A- (90-93) B- (80-82) C- (70-72)

Technology Requirements:

Computer with a camera and a microphone.

Browsers compatible with Blackboard: Firefox, Chrome and Safari.

Please get familiar with Blackboard Collaborate Ultra for the online classes. Visit **Blackboard Collaborate Ultra** <https://help.blackboard.com/Collaborate/Ultra/Participant> for more information.

Download Respondus Lockdown Browser for exams. <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/how-to-install-and-use-the-respondus-lockdown-browser/>

*Make-up exams will be given only on medical grounds for self and appropriate documentation is required. One make-up exam is allowed for the semester. The make-up exam will be more difficult than the class exam.

** Students are advised to keep up with the readings and consult me on any matter concerning the course.

*** Deadlines regarding submissions must be met. Delayed submissions will result in a reduced grade.

**** In class computer use is strictly restricted to class work.

Required Readings :

William R. Slomanson, Fundamental Perspectives on International Law, 6th ed. Belmont, CA: West Thomas Learning, 2011.

Articles will be made available after the midterm exam.

Important Dates:

Last Date to Add Classes: August 29, 2022. Please verify to ensure proper enrollment.

Paper Proposal Due: September 20, 2022. Blackboard submission.

Final Paper Due: December 1 at 1:30 PM 2022 on Blackboard.

Mid-term Exam: October 25, 2022.

Final Exam: December 13, 2022. 1.30 pm-3.30pm.

Course Outline:

Week 1. August 23 and August 25. Text Chapter 1. What is International Law?

Legal Case: *The Paquete Habana and the Lola* (<https://www.tjssl.edu/slomansonb/txtcsesite.html>)

Week 2. August 30 and September 1 and 6. Text Chapter 2. States in International Law.

Legal Cases: *Ex Parte Pinochet* (<https://www.tjssl.edu/slomansonb/txtcsesite.html>)

Democratic Republic of v Belgium (<https://www.tjssl.edu/slomansonb/txtcsesite.html>)

Mexico v. United States (<https://www.tjssl.edu/slomansonb/txtcsesite.html>)

Radwan v. Radwan (Text)

Colombia v. Peru (<https://www.tjssl.edu/slomansonb/txtcsesite.html>)

United States of America v. Iran (Text)

Week 3. September 8 and September 13. Text Chapter 3. International Organizations.

Legal Case: *Reparation for Injuries Suffered in the Service of the United Nations* (Text)

Week 4. September 15 and September 20. Text Chapter 4. Individuals and Corporations.

Legal Cases: *Lichtenstein v. Guatemala* (Text)

Sale Haitian Centers Council (<https://www.tjssl.edu/slomansonb/txtcsesite.html>)

Asakura v. City of Seattle (<https://www.tjssl.edu/slomansonb/txtcsesite.html>)

Week 5. September 22 and 27. Text Chapter 5. Extraterritorial Jurisdiction.

Legal Cases: *France v. Turkey* (Text)

Israel v. Eichmann (Text)

United States v. Humberto Alvarez Machain (Text)

State v. Ebrahim (Text)

Week 6. September 29. Text Chapter 6. Range of Sovereignty.

Legal Cases: *Denmark v. Norway* (Text)

Mali v. Keeper of the Common Jail of Hudson County (<https://www.tjssl.edu/slomansonb/txtcsesite.html>)

.....*Powers Case* (Text)

Week 7. October 4 and 6. Text Chapter 6. Range of Sovereignty.

Legal Case: *Reservations to the Convention on Genocide* (Text)

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Week 7. Columbus Day Recess October 10. No class on October 11.

Week 8. October 13 and October 18. Chapter 7. Treaties.

Legal Case: *Reservations to the Convention on Genocide* (Text)

Week 9. October 18 and 20

Chapter 7 Treaties.

Chapter 8. Arbitration and Adjudication.

Week 10. OCTOBER 25 MIDTERM EXAM.

October 27. Chapter 8. Arbitration and Adjudication.

Reading Packet: Should the US ratify the Rome Treaty? Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, from, "Statement Before Committee on International Relations". In Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics, John T. Rourke ed. (11th). Guilford, CN: Dushkin/Macgraw Hills, 2004.

John R. Bolton, from "Statement Before Committee on International Relations,". In Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics, ed.(11th) John T. Rourke. Guilford, CN: Dushkin/Macgraw Hills, 2004.

Week 11. November 1 and November 3. Text Chapter 9. Use of Force.

Week 12. November 8. Text . Chapter 10. Use of Force.

Legal Cases: *Nicaragua v. United States* (Text)

Excerpts from the United Nations Security Council Debate on the Entebbe Incident

(<https://www.tjssl.edu/slomansonb/txtcsesite.html>)

Reading Packet: Michael J. Glennon, □ New Interventionism: Search for a New International Law □ *Foreign Affairs* vol 78, no 3 May/June 1999: 2-7.

Reading Packet: Kofi Annan, □ Two Concepts of Sovereignty □ *Economist* September 18-24, 1999: 49-50.

Reading Packet: Would the Use of Nuclear Weapons Necessarily Violate the International Law of War? In

Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in World Politics, John T. Rourke ed. (9th). Guilford, CN:

Dushkin/Macgraw Hills, 2000.

Week 13. November 10 and 15. Text Chapter 10. Human Rights.

Treaties: *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (1966) (Text)

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966) (Text)

Week 14. November 17 and November 22. Text Chapter 11. International Environment.

Legal Cases: *Trail Smelters Arbitration* (Text)

Nauru v. Australia (Text)

Argentina v. Uruguay (Text)

Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons (Text)

Thanksgiving Recess: November 23-November 27.

Week 15. November 29 and December 1. Economic Relations. Chapter 12.

PAPER DUE ON DECEMBER 1 AT 1:30 PM ON BLACKBOARD.

FINAL EXAM ON DECEMBER 13 1:30 pm -3:30pm.

GMU Honor Code: The Honor Code policy endorsed by the members of the School of Policy, Government and International Affairs relative to the type of academic work indicated below is set out in the appropriate paragraphs:

1. Quizzes, test, and examination. No help may be given or received by students when taking quizzes, tests, or examinations, whatever the type or whenever taken, unless the instructor specifically permits deviation from this standard.

2. Course requirements. All work submitted to fulfill course requirements is to be solely the product of the individual(s) whose name(s) appears on it. Except with permission of the instructor, no recourse is to be had for projects, papers, lab reports, or any other written work previously prepared by another student, and except with permission of the instructor, no paper or work of any type submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of another course may be used a second time to satisfy a requirement of any course in the Department of Public and International Affairs. No assistance is to be obtained from commercial organizations which sell or lease research help or written papers. With respect to all written work as appropriate, proper footnotes and attribution are required.