

INTERNATIONAL LAW 558
PROFESSOR CINDY G. BUYS
Fall 2019

Meeting Place and Times: Room 206
Mondays and Wednesdays, 3-4:15 p.m.

Contact Info: Office 134 (Dean's Office)/ 238 (Faculty Office)

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Office Hours: MW 2-3 pm or by appointment (email is the best way to set up an appointment by emailing me directly or contacting my assistant, Michele Tourville at tville@siu.edu). I am also available for questions immediately after class.

Course Description and Objectives:

This course introduces students to the field of international law. While international law is traditionally thought of as governing interactions between sovereign nation-states, increasingly it has come to involve and affect private persons, corporations, and non-governmental organizations as well. By the time you have completed this course, you should:

1. Be able to identify the primary sources of international law;
2. Understand how international law is developed, implemented and enforced;
3. Be able to construct a persuasive legal argument using those international law sources;
4. Be familiar with many of the primary international legal rules and actors;
5. Be familiar with several international courts and tribunals and their work;
6. Understand how international law is incorporated into U.S. law; and
7. Understand some of the political or policy considerations that drive the development of international law (or lack thereof) and the behavior of nation-states and other international actors.

One of the most interesting and exciting aspects of international law is that it is constantly evolving and expanding. For virtually every field of domestic law, there is a corresponding body of international law. Thus, the breadth of the field is unparalleled. Because the entire scope of international law is beyond this introductory course, we will choose a few specialty areas within international law, such as international environmental law, regional human rights law, the law of the sea, or the law of war, to study towards the end of the course. I will be seeking your input regarding which specialty areas you would like to study.

While learning international law can be challenging, I hope you will join me in viewing international law as an exciting practice area, which is growing in importance and which allows for a tremendous amount of creative lawyering.

Required Reading:

Most of the reading assignments for this course will be drawn from Janis & Noyes, *INTERNATIONAL LAW: CASES AND COMMENTARY* (West 5th ed. 2014) [hereinafter Janis]. Other reading assignments may be placed on reserve in the library, distributed in class, or posted on the class TWEN page. In addition, I may ask you to find some materials on the Internet.

The reading assignment for the first day of class is Chapter One of the Janis book. All reading assignments will be distributed and/or posted on TWEN at appropriate times.

Class Attendance and Preparation:

You are expected to attend classes on a regular basis and to be on time. Being present on time demonstrates respect for the professor and your classmates. If for some unavoidable reason you are late to class, you will be asked to sing, recite a poem, or contribute \$.50 towards an end-of-the-semester snack.

Absences in excess of six (6) classes will be dealt with in accordance with the law school rules and are likely to result in a grade reduction or withdrawal from the course. Attendance will be taken daily. You are responsible for making sure you sign in each day and for keeping track of your absences. Your signature on the attendance sheet constitutes a representation that you have read the assigned material and are prepared to discuss it in an intelligent fashion. Being prepared also means that you have completed any written assignments on a satisfactory basis. If I call on you and I judge that you are unprepared, I reserve the right to mark you as absent for that class and to deduct participation points.

If you are unprepared for class but would like to attend and receive the benefit of the class discussion: (1) do not sign the attendance sheet; (2) give me a note at the start of class with your name and the date. A day of “noting out” counts as one of your permitted absences.

Workload Expectations:

The American Bar Association (ABA) standards for accrediting law schools contain a formula for calculating the amount of work required to earn one hour of law school credit. Pursuant to these standards, each credit hour should reasonably approximate one hour of in-class instruction and at least two hours of out-of-class work per week for fifteen weeks. Accordingly, for this three-credit-hour class, you should spend approximately three hours per week in class and at least six hours per week preparing for class or engaging in other class-related activities.

Make-up Classes

To ensure compliance with ABA Standard 304, this class is required to hold additional class session(s) or to engage in out-of-class assignments to make up for the Labor Day holiday on Monday, Sept. 2 and Veterans Day, Monday, Nov. 11. We will discuss options for the make-up classes and assignments during the first week of classes.

Class Recordings

This class will be recorded. However, you must obtain the professor's permission to view the recording. In addition, watching a recording does not count as attendance unless the professor makes an exception due to special circumstances. If you wish to make an audio recording of the class using your own recording device, you may do so as long as you obtain the advance permission of the professor.

Professional Behavior:

You are expected to be courteous and respectful to everyone in the class at all times, including conduct both in and out of the classroom and on social media. During this class, we will discuss many topics on which personal and political views are likely to vary greatly. In order to test ideas, I strongly encourage open discussion and the expression of different viewpoints in a professional, respectful, and civil manner.

While in the classroom, you are expected to keep distractions to a minimum, turn off any noise-making devices, and give the class your full attention. You may use laptops in the classroom for note-taking and other class-related tasks. However, other uses of technological devices are likely to be distracting and possibly even offensive to other persons in the classroom and are therefore prohibited. If I believe there is a problem with improper laptop usage in class, I reserve the right to ban the use of laptops. If it is

absolutely necessary for you to enter or leave the classroom while class is in session, please do not disrupt the class upon entering or exiting the room.

TWEN (The West Education Network):

You should register for this course on TWEN no later than the first week of classes. I will post the syllabus and reading assignments on TWEN, as well as other relevant material and information. You will be expected to check TWEN at least weekly and are responsible for any materials posted on TWEN. I will also periodically send class-related e-mails to the address you list on TWEN, so be sure you list an e-mail address that you check regularly.

Evaluation:

Your grade will consist of several parts:

- (1) A timed Multi-State Essay Exam (MEE)-style question which will be worth 10% of your grade.
- (2) A take-home mid-term writing assignment worth approximately 25% of your grade.
- (3) A final take-home writing assignment worth approximately 45% of your grade. The final writing assignment will be distributed during the last week of classes and will be due during the final exam period.
- (4) A blog post and oral presentation on a topic of "International Law in the News," which will count towards 15% of your grade.
- (5) The remaining 5% of your grade will be based on your attendance and class participation, including your participation in class discussions and your preparation for and participation in simulation exercises during class, such as mock oral arguments or debates. Participation points for above average class participation are awarded in my discretion based both the quality and quantity of a student's participation in the class discussion and activities. With respect to the class attendance points, each student begins the semester with five points; one point is deducted for each absence. However, you may gain back attendance points with above-average participation.

More information will be provided regarding these assignments at the appropriate time. I also reserve the right to administer ungraded individual or group assignments throughout the semester.

Statement on Collaboration and Plagiarism:

In this class, there will be some assignments, both graded and ungraded, where collaboration is allowed and even encouraged and others where it is not. It is your responsibility to pay strict attention to the professor's instructions regarding whether and what form of collaboration is allowed.

Violating classroom rules or plagiarizing another's work, in whole or in part, is a violation of the Honor Code and can lead to serious penalties, including expulsion. An Honor Code investigation must also be reported to the Bar Examiners, even if you are cleared of any violation. The Honor Code defines plagiarism as:

passing off another's ideas, words, or work as one's own, including written, oral, multimedia, or other work, either word for word or in substance, unless the student author credits the original author and identifies the original author's work with quotation marks, footnotes, or other appropriate designation in such a way as to make clear the true author of the work.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on BERT's website at www.bert.siu.edu, Department of Safety's website www.dps.siu.edu (disaster drop down) and in Emergency Response Guideline pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The Building Emergency Response Team will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

DISABILITY POLICY. Disability Support Services provides the required academic and programmatic support services to students with permanent and temporary disabilities. DSS provides centralized coordination and referral services. To utilize DSS services, students must come to the DSS to open cases. The process involves interviews, reviews of student-supplied documentation, and completion of Disability Accommodation Agreements. <http://disabilityservices.siu.edu/>. Upon completion of a Disability Accommodation Agreement with DSS, students should bring the agreement to the School of Law Registrar's Office to ensure the School of Law provides the proper classroom and examination accommodations.

SALUKI CARES. The purpose of Saluki Cares is to develop, facilitate and coordinate a university-wide program of care and support for students in any type of distress—physical, emotional, financial, or personal. By working closely with faculty, staff, students and their families, SIU will continue to display a culture of care and demonstrate to our students and their families that they are an important part of the community. For Information on Saluki Cares: (618) 453-5714, or siucares@siu.edu, <http://salukicare.siu.edu/index.html>. At the School of Law, Assistant Dean Judi Ray is also available to help students access university resources. Her email is judiray@siu.edu, and her phone number is 618- 453-3135.