

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS
Department of Political Science
POS 405 D.1
International Organizations and Law

Summer III, 2008
M-R 5-6:55 p.m.
WRI C 235

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PURPOSE AND SCOPE:

The primary purposes of this course are:

1. To examine some of the theoretical and historical foundations of international integration and interdependence.
- 2 To evaluate the contemporary characteristics and roles of international organizations, institutions, and law as the primary instruments of international integration and interdependence.

The idea and practice of integration at the international level are not new. As long as there have been international actors, in the broadest sense of the term, there have been attempts at establishing some patterns in their relationship. However, the establishment of the modern nation-state system has clearly contributed to greater disagreements about the effectiveness of integration as a tool for the management of international relations. During this semester, we will examine these controversies with the hope of understanding future roles of international organizations and law in the management of international relations.

TEXTS:

1. Oona Hathaway and Harold Koh, Foundations of International Law and Politics, New York: Foundation Press; 2005.
2. Thomas Weiss, et.al., The United Nations and the Changing World Politics, 5th ed., Boulder: Westview Press; 2007.

REFERENCES: To be used for the preparation of individual case presentations and discussions on the Laws of War:

1. The American Journal of International Law and its companion publication: International Legal Materials.
2. Geneva Conventions (1 though 4) and additional Protocols (I though III). These texts are available at <http://www.icrc.org/ihl.nsf/WEBCONFULL>.

COURSE CONDUCT AND EVALUATION POLICY:

All students are required to attend lecture sessions regularly, participate in class discussions effectively, and present their assigned cases on time. (A list of the cases is attached.)

Course grades will be determined as follows:

- 1.Participation in class discussions and case presentations..... 20% of the grade.
2. A written mid-term examination (July 28) 40% of the grade.

3. A non-comprehensive final examination (August 14)..... 40% of the grade.

Failure to take your mid-term exam on the scheduled date will result in a failing grade, unless you have a **documented legitimate and compelling excuse**. There will not be any written make-up exams. Oral Mid-term exams (absolutely no make-ups for the final exam) will be arranged for those with such excuses.

COURSE OUTLINE:

Note: The following topics and dates are subject to minor changes, if necessary, to accommodate your needs and interests.

July 14 Introduction and Overview

PART I : INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

July 15 &16 International Integration: Some Theoretical and Historical Observations

**-Required Reading: Weiss, Introduction
Hathaway, Chapters IIA, B and C**

July 17, 21,22 & 23 International Governmental Organizations: Structures,
Processes, and Functions;

- Collective Security and Peaceful settlement of conflicts
- Promotion of socio-economic welfare
- Promotion of individual and collective rights

**-Required Reading: Weiss, Chapters 1,4,5,6,
7,8 &10**

July 24 International Integration: Problems and Prospects

- Required Reading: Weiss, Conclusions

July 28 Written Mid-term Exam

PART II: INTERNATIONAL LAW

June 29 International Law: Nature, Sources, Subjects, and Status

- Required Reading: Hathaway, III A & B.

June 30 & 31 Jurisdictional Issues Relating to the Laws of the Seas, Space, and of Treaties

- Required Reading: Hathaway, Chapters IV C.

August 4, 5 & 6 The Individual in International Law, Immunities & Humanitarian Laws

- Required Reading; Hathaway, Chapters IV A and D.

August 7 The Laws of War

- Required Reading: Geneva Conventions (1-4) and Protocols (I-III)

August 11 International Criminal Laws and the United States

- Required Reading: Hathaway, Chapter IV E & F.

August 12 & 13 Case Presentations

August 14 Final Examination (5 p.m.)

Good luck and have a successful semester!!!

"If you have a documented disability that may require assistance, you will need to contact the Disability Resource Center (DRC) for coordination of your academic accommodations. The DRC is located in the Reynolds Students Services complex in Rm 137. The phone is 895-0866 (TDD 895-0652) and [www.drcssc@cmail.nevada.edu](mailto:drcssc@cmail.nevada.edu)".

SUGGESTED CASES - 2008

The S.S. Lotus

Blackmer v. the United State (1932)

United States v. Aluminum Company of America

Nottebaum Case (1955)

The Baja California

Case Concerning Oil Platforms (Iran v. Unites States, 2003)

Hamdi V. Rumsfeld (2004)

Arcaya v. Paez

U.S. v. First National City Bank

Rich v. Naviera Vacuba

Dralle v. Republic of Czechoslovakia

Fisheries Case (UK v. Norway, 1951)

The Schooner Exchange v. M'Faddon (1812)

William E. Chapman Claim (U.S. f. Mexico, 1930)

Rosado F. Civiletti (1980)

Aegean Sea Continental Shelf Case (Greece v. Turkey)

Asylum Case (Columbia v. Peru)

Banco National de Cuba v. Sabbatino

Dreyfus v. Von Finck

Eastern Greenland Case (Denmark v. Norway)

Irene Roberts Case (U.S. v. Venezuela)

Missouri v. Holland

Piggioli Case (Italy v. Venezuela)

Schooner Exchange

Texaco and Asiatic Oil Co. V. Libyan Republic

