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NR4404 - Space Law
Robert Bledsoe

Syllabus
Spring 2012

Instructor Contact

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Course Information

Course Name	INR4404 - Space Law
Credit Hours	3
Semester/Year	Spring 2012
Location	Web-based

Course Description

PR: None. Space law is a one-semester course designed as an examination of the legal regime of outer space from both international and national perspectives, and the identification of legal problems arising from human activity in space.

Course Objectives

- acquaint the student with the legal problems which have arisen or are likely to arise out of human activities in outer space
- familiarize the student with the basic treaties that comprise the international legal regime of outer space
- compare and contrast the attitudes and viewpoints of different regions, political systems, and levels of development

The primary purpose of the course is to nurture basic tools for you to better assess the complex environment of nature, politics, and technology as represented in the legal regime of outer space. These basic tools include critical thinking, appreciation of diversity, and accessing technology. **Critical thinking** is central to the analysis and assessment of the varied issues confronting humankind in dealing with outer space; **diversity** is key to understanding the varied interests of groups, countries, regions in dealing with those issues (as John Stuart Mill observed: "He who knows only his side of the case knows little of it"); and **technology** is an incredible door to introduce you to ideas you may never have before pondered.

Required Text

There is no textbook for the course. Everything will be available online.

Supplemental Texts

There are no supplemental texts for the course.

Course Requirements

The course will consist of a series of **Learning Modules** utilizing the resources of the Web. Be sure to read the materials in each Module before proceeding to the Assignments and submitting your materials, as there is information in the Module that is not replicated in the Assignment description on your submission site.

Without the confines of scheduled class attendance, you must manage your

time wisely. Refer to both the **Schedule** and the **Calendar** for availability and due dates for elements of the course. In order to keep up, you should schedule yourself to do a Module every two weeks, giving yourself plenty of time to do the final assignment which comprises elements of all the previous Modules. Putting off doing Assignments until the deadline will spell disaster for you - as systems do crash, personal matters do arise over which you have no control, and software will often not interface.

Missed Assignments/Make-Ups/Extra Credit

There should be no missed Assignments, since all are available for extended periods of time. If you wait until the last minute and the server is down, there are technical issues, or your computer crashes, that is not my problem. No extra time will be allowed once the deadline has passed.

There is no extra credit built into the course. You already have a grading option built into the course, as seen below.

Evaluation and Grading

The course grade is based upon completion of Module Assignments. If it is found that you are submitting work done by someone else, the minimum penalty will be a zero on the Assignment and persistent infractions will lead to academic disciplinary action (see Academic Honesty section below).

There are a total of 5 Assignment and a Final Project. Each Assignment is worth 15 points for 75% of your grade and a 25 point Final Project (which is 25% of your grade).

Letter Grade	Points
A	90 -100 points
B	80-89 points
C	70-79 points
D	60-69 points
F	< 60 points

Assignment	Percentage of Grade
Assignment 1	15%
Assignment 2	15%

Assignment 3	15%
Assignment 4	15%
Assignment 5	15%
Project	25%
Total	100%

Attendance Policy

This course is totally online. There are no classroom examinations, introductory sessions, etc. If you are on either the Main campus or the Daytona campus during my office hours, I would love to get to meet and chat with you.

Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and Cheating of any kind on an Assignment or Final Project will result at least in an "F" for that assignment (and may, depending on the severity of the case, lead to an "F" for the entire course) and may be subject to appropriate referral to the Office of Student Conduct for further action. See the UCF Golden Rule for further information. I will assume for this course that you will adhere to the academic creed of this University and will maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. I will also adhere to the highest standards of academic integrity, so please do not ask me to change (or expect me to change) your grade illegitimately or to bend or break rules for one person that will not apply to everyone.

Disability Statement

The University of Central Florida is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all persons with disabilities. This syllabus is available in alternate formats upon request. Students with disabilities who need accommodations in this course must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester to discuss needed accommodations. No accommodations will be provided until the student has met with the professor to request accommodations. Students who need accommodations must be registered with Student Disability Services, Student Resource Center Room 132, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Schedule

Week/Date	Topic	Assignments	Due Dates
Weeks 1-2	Module 1: Outer Space Treaty (opens 01/10/12	Read assigned materials Complete web essay Assignment	01/23/12
Weeks 3-4	Module 2: Rescue Agreement	Read assigned materials Complete web essay Assignment	02/06/12
Weeks 5-6	Module 3: Liability Convention	Read assigned materials Complete web essay Assignment	02/20/12
Weeks 7-8	Module 4: Registration Convention	Read assigned materials Complete web essay Assignment	03/04/12
Weeks 9-10	Module 5: Moon Agreement	Read assigned materials Complete web essay Assignment	03/19/12
Weeks 11-14	Project	10-15 page research project	04/20/12
	There is no final exam		

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