INR 4351M
INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

COURSE SYLLABUS

Dr. Robert Bledsoe
6:00-7:15 Mondays
D150-212
robert.bledsoe@ucf.edu
drbled@aol.com

OFFICE: Bldg. 150 Suite 200
HOURS: 5:00-5:50M

OFFICE: UCF Main Campus PH 302
HOURS: 10:30-12:00; 1:00-4:00TR
(or by appointment)

COURSE OUTLINE

1. **Course Objectives**. This one semester course on international environmental law is designed to:
   (1) introduce you to the nature and sources of international environmental law and how it relates to municipal law;
   (2) gain an understanding of the role of law and international organizations in aiding the protection of the global environment;
   (3) familiarize you with the legal principles which govern the various areas of environmental concern;
   (4) examine the common but differentiated rights and duties of the developed and developing states;
   (5) suggest how individuals fit into the environmental scheme of things;
   (6) examine how the international community enforces international environmental norms;
   (9) gain insight into how international environmental law has been instrumental in improving both the human and global environment.

While useful to students desiring to go on to law school or graduate school, the primary purpose of the course is to provide the basic tools for any student to better understand the influence and contribution of law to the global environment in which we live.

2. **Course Requirements**. The course will consist of a series of lectures and web assignments (this is a reduced seat time course) focusing upon the topics and issues outlined in Section 5. You are encouraged to ask questions, inject personal observations, and challenge the assertions of the professor. Attend all class meetings. While no formal record of attendance is kept, you will find that failure to attend class will soon be reflected in your course performance, as lecture material will often not be found in your reading assignments. **Read** and **master** the material in the assignments. These are found in the textbook for the course:

Philippe Sands and Jacqueline Peel, *Principles of International Environmental Law*. 3rd ed. Cambridge University Press. 2012.

Reading the assignments and keeping up with the lectures is your responsibility. No specific pages of reading will be given from one lecture to another. Pace yourself according to the topics under consideration during lecture periods. This is a very challenging textbook and is not meant to be a book end in your bookcase. You must constantly work on it or it will get away from you. Furthermore, I would suggest that you take this book with you to law school or graduate school if you want to further pursue the subject matter. It is an excellent reference source.

3. **Examinations**. There will be four essay examinations during the course. All will consist of short answer questions dealing with legal concepts, principles, points of law, hypothetical situations, themes, and case identification and briefing. The final examination (fourth midterm) is **not cumulative**. Each exam will cover that portion of the material outlined in Section 5. Midterms are **tentatively** scheduled as follows and will be held at the normal class time and meeting place:

(1) **Monday, February 4**
(2) **Monday, February 25**
(3) **Monday, March 25**

The final examination (fourth midterm) will be held at the normal class meeting place from **7:00-10:00pm** on **Monday, April 27**. Please provide me with four (4) examination booklets ("blue books" or "green books") at your earliest convenience. They can be purchased at the Bookstore and will be used to write your answers on exam days. When giving them to me, please make sure that they are in new condition and not crumbled, folded, or soiled. Would you want to take your exam in one in that condition? Give 4 to me prior to the first midterm with your name at the top right corner of one of the four booklets. **Attendance at examinations is mandatory. There are no makeup examinations.** In addition, after the first person has turned in their exam and left the room, no one who is tardy and arrives after that time will be allowed to take the exam. They will have missed the test. All exams will be in **pen** (not pencil). Once an exam has begun, no one is allowed to leave the classroom for any reason (so be prepared ahead of time to remain for from 75 minutes to 3 hours when exams begin).

4. **Grades**. There are nine possible grades for the course:

Exams	(4 x 20 points each)	= 80 points
Assignments	(5 x 10 points each)	= 50 points

Each student must have **three (3) exam** grades to equal 60% of the course and **four (4) assignment** grades to equal 40% of the course. Thus, you can take all four exams and drop you lowest grade or you can skip an exam (including the final) and you can do all five assignments and drop the lowest grade or skip an assignment. Just remember, there are no makeup exams (or assignments). Plan wisely. If you miss a test (or assignment), you have dropped your lowest grade already. In no case is it wise to miss the first examination. Make your vacation plans for **after** finals week.

Letter grades: 90-100 = A (NOTE: there will be no +/- grades)
80-89 = B
70-79 = C
60-69 = D
< 60 = F

5. **Assignments**. (Chapters in course textbook)

I.	NATURE AND DEVELOPMENT	Chptrs.1-2
II.	INTERNATIONAL GOVERNANCE	Chptr.3
III.	SOURCES	Chptr.4

---First midterm (Monday, February 4)---

IV.	ENFORCEMENT/DISPUTE SETTLEMENT	Chptr.5
V.	PRINCIPLES	Chptr.6
VI.	ATMOSPHERIC ENVIRONMENT	Chptr.7
VII.	WATERWAYS	Chptr.8

---Second midterm (Monday, February 25)---
Spring Break (March 4-9)
Note: Withdrawal deadline is Monday, March 11

VIII.	MARITIME ENVIRONMENT	Chptr.9
IX.	ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY	Chptr.10
X.	HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES/WASTES	Chptr.11-12

---Third midterm (Monday, March 25)---

XI.	FUNDING/TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER	Chptr.16
XII.	LIABILITY	Chptr.17
XIII.	HUMAN RIGHTS	Chptr.18
XIV.	ECONOMICS AND THE ENVIRONMENT	Chptr.19

---Final exam (Monday, April 29)---

6. **Weekly schedule:**

1/7	Administrative matters; lecture
1/14	Lecture
1/21	Lecture (assignment #1 is due 1/28 at 11:59pm)
1/28	Lecture
2/4	1st exam; lecture
2/11	Lecture (assignment #2 is due 2/18 at 11:59pm)
2/18	Lecture
2/25	2nd exam; lecture
3/4-3/9	Spring Break (assignment #3 is due 3/4 at 11:59pm)
3/11	Lecture
3/18	Lecture (assignment #4 is due 3/25 at 11:59pm)
3/25	3rd exam; lecture
4/1	Lecture
4/8	Lecture (assignment #5 is due 4/15 at 11:59pm)
4/15	Lecture
4/22	Lecture
4/29	Final exam

WELCOME TO INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND MAY YOU HAVE A SUCCESSFUL SPRING SEMESTER

Attachments: Guide to Finding and Briefing Cases
Sample of Case Brief
Blank Brief
Glossary of Legal Terms

Some ground rules:

(1) Classroom
- no food, drinks, smoking
- use of laptops or tape recorders are ok but turn off beepers, pagers, cell phones, iPods, etc.
- if you are late, please come anyway but try not to be disruptive when entering the room

(2) Communications
- feel free to e-mail me:
  - office – robert.bledsoe@ucf.edu (please note that this is accessible to the public, so use the private address below if you are concerned about confidentiality or call me via telephone)
  - home - drbled@aol.com
- call me at the office but not at home
  - Main Campus(407-823-2608)
  - Daytona Campus (386-506-4088)
- see me during office hours or call for appointment (see telephone numbers above)

(3) Exams

if you are late on exam day and a student has already turned in their exam and departed before you arrive, you are too late and I will not let you take the exam

during the term, grades are handed back with exams and are not posted on MyGrades. Only the final course grade is posted for you to retrieve online. If you wish materials returned to you, provide me ahead of time with a stamped, addressed mailer and I will do so at the end of the grading period. No grades will be given out by the Department staff, so please do not call them.

NOTE: I am available to discuss information on law schools with a strong emphasis on international environmental law (or other areas of law). In addition, the Department of Political Science has prepared a careers and internships guide for Political Science majors that is available to students on the Department website or can be acquired in hard copy from the Department's Main Office. Also, on the magazine rack in the Political Science Office are informational materials on law schools, LSAT application brochures, and *PreLaw* magazines (if you do not get to Main campus and would like these materials, let me know and I'll get them for you).

Note: this syllabus is subject to change at the discretion of the Instructor