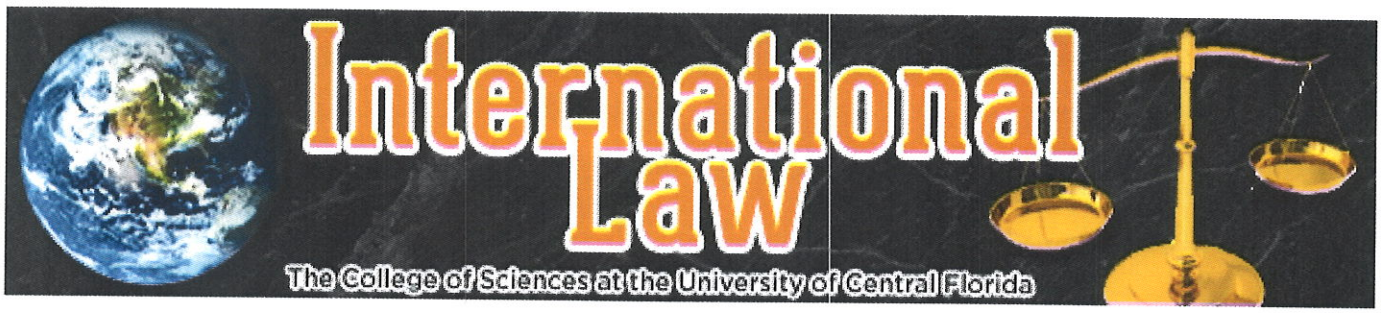
# Syllabus




## Syllabus

## Summer "B" 2021

### Instructor Contact

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|---|---|
| **Instructor** | Robert Bledsoe |
| **Office** | Main campus: Phillips Hall 102B (closed for summer) |
| **Office Hours** | online and to set up Zoom meeting or phone conversation |
| **Phone** | Orlando campus: (407) 823-2608 (contact me via e-mail) |
| **E-mail** | robert.bledsoe@ucf.edu (mailto:robert.bledsoe@ucf.edu) |

GTA support for our course is provided by Karthy Thiagarajan and Santosh Sapkota

### Course Information

| | |
|---|---|
| **Course Name** | INR 4401 - International Law |
| **Credit Hours** | 3 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Semester/Year** | Summer 2021 |
| **Location** | web-based |

# Course Description

UCF Catalog Description: (Prerequisites: ENC 1102 or POS 2041 or consent of instructor) The nature, evolution, and sources of international law and examination of various sub-areas such as recognition, maritime law, nationality, and war.

Course Overview: International Law is a 6-weeks online course designed to introduce the student to public international law - the legal regime of the international political system of states and other entities in that system. While useful to students desiring to go on to law 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 world in which we live. The course is one of the options in the Functional Restricted electives of the International and Global Studies major as well as an elective in the International/Comparative track of the Political Science major (minor) and one of the three options in the Restricted law course of the Pre-Law track of the Political Science major.

# Course Objectives

- Introduce you to the nature and sources of international law; how that law developed; and how it relates to municipal (national) law
- Gain an understanding of the role of law in aiding both stability and peaceful change in the international system
- familiarize you with the legal principles which create the subjects of international law and govern their succession or demise
- examine the rights and duties of the subjects of international law
- suggest how individuals fit into the scheme of things
- introduce you to the legal principles, customs, and norms which govern national jurisdiction over spatial domain and problems in extraterritorial jurisdiction
- introduce you to the legal principles, customs, and norms that govern nations during the course of their international transactions through diplomacy and treaties
- examine those norms that prevail when law fails in its role of aiding both stability and peaceful change in the international system and international disputes and/or conflicts occur
- gain insight into how international law has been instrumental in improving both the human and global environment

The course will nurture basic tools for you to better understand the law. These tools include critical thinking, appreciation of diversity, and accessing technology. **Critical thinking** is central to the analysis and assessment of the law; **diversity** influences how different nations/cultures view that law; and **technology** is an incredible tool to aid you in researching that law.

# Required Text

All students must purchase Gerhard von Glahn and James Larry Taulbee, *Law Among Nations: An Introduction to Public International Law*. 11th ed. Routledge. 2017. ISBN 978-1-138-69172-8 (paperback) or ISBN 978-1-315-53413-8 (ebook).

The textbook is available at the UCF Bookstore and possibly off-campus bookstores as well as Amazon and textbook rental sites. Be aware that some sources may take time to get to you and in a 6-weeks course this can be a serious problem. Timeliness is more important than money.

# Course Requirements

The course will consist of a series of **Learning Modules** based upon **Chapters** in your textbook, which consist of reading each chapter, taking a **Quiz** on each chapter, and completing an **Assignment** (consisting of either a case brief, a research essay, or both) for each Module. Refer to the **Schedule** and **Calendar** for due dates for elements of the course. The entire course will open at once but each Module might have different closing dates. Thus, you can complete Modules are soon as you wish and complete those ahead of time if you know you will be out of town on business, etc. If your summer calendar is filled with competitions, regionals, away sports events, a full academic load, and/or full-time work, then you should not be taking this course. This course will occupy a considerable portion of your summer. The entire course is open at the beginning of the term and you know what your schedule looks like for the term. Do not put off Modules until the deadline - it will spell disaster for you!

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. You will have missed a quiz and/or an assignment. Once the clock runs out, that is it. Waiting until 11:58pm or 11:59pm on the last day when the deadline is 11:59pm will likely result in your not being able to submit your assignment. Give yourself days of lead time to get technical problems addressed (see Support Services, Tech Support, Help Desk).

**Makeups and Extra Credit**

There is no extra credit built into the course. Once the clock runs out on Quizzes, there is no extension (unless documented medical event). When the clock runs out on submitting Assignments, they need to be submitted to me as an e-mail attachment and a letter grade will be dropped each day the assignment is late (unless documented medical event). After 4 days have lapsed since the assignment deadline, I will no longer accept them.

# Evaluation and Grading

The course is based upon completion of module quizzes and assignments. If it is found that you

are submitting work done by someone else or plagiarizing, the minimum penalty will be zero on the quiz or assignment and persistent infractions will lead to academic disciplinary action. (see Academic Honesty section below).

To calculate your grade, take your total points and divide by 180. This will give you your course average and then refer to the chart below for the corresponding letter grade. The Tutorial and Student quiz is for your own benefit - it is not part of your total points or grade for the course.

| Letter Grade | Points |
|---|---|
| A | 90-100 |
| B | 80-89 |
| C | 70-79 |
| D | 60-69 |
| F | 59 or below |

| Assignment | Points |
|---|---|
| Module 0 | 10 |
| Module 1 | 25 |
| Module 2 | 25 |
| Module 3 | 30 |
| Module 4 | 30 |
| Module 5 | 30 |
| Module 6 | 30 |
| Total | 180 |

Note: there are no + and - grades for the final course grade.

## Academic Honesty

Plagiarism and Cheating of any kind on an examination, quiz, or assignment 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** **(http://www.goldenrule.sdes.ucf.edu/)** 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. In other words, don't cheat by giving answers to others or taking them from anyone else. 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 (e.g., reopening a Module quiz or accepting a late submission for an assignment) .

## 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, Ferrell Commons 185, phone (407) 823-2371, TTY/TDD only phone (407) 823-2116, before requesting accommodations from the professor.

Web Sites

There are hundreds of sites that provide resources to study international law. The following are a good beginning for information and resources. There will be specific web sites for you in each Module.

*The American Journal of International Law* (available online through the UCF Library)

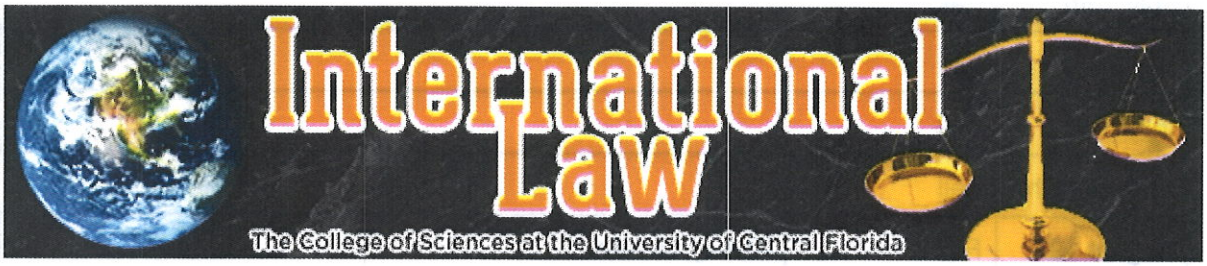
**Institute for International Law and Justice** (http://www.iilj.org/) at New York University

**The Avalon Project** (http://avalon.law.yale.edu) at Yale Law School

**www.un.org/law/avl** (http://www.un.org/law/avl) (this is the UN AudioVisual Library)

(see also the Journals attachment in Announcements)

# Schedule




| Week/Date | Topic | Assignments | Due Dates |
|---|---|---|---|
| Week 1 | Module 0: Introductory (opens 06/28/21) | • Complete 2-part Assignment (Case Brief; Introduction) | 07/02/21 11:59pm |
| Week 1 | Module 1: The Nature of International Law (opens 06/28/21) | • Read Chapter 1<br>• Take Chapter 1 Quiz<br>• Complete essay Assignment (Background) | 07/05/21 11:59pm |
| Week 2 | Module 2: Sources of International Law (opens 06/28/21) | • Read Chapter 3<br>• Take Chapter 3 Quiz<br>• Complete Case Brief Assignment (Sources) | 07/11/21 11:59pm |
| Week 3 | Module 3: Legal Process and Application (opens 06/28/21) | • Read Chapters 5, 6 (and pp. 593-600)<br>• Take Chapters 5 and 6 Quizzes<br>• Complete essay Assignment (Case Briefs) | 07/11/20 11:59pm |
| Week 4 | Module 4: States (opens 06/28/21) | • Read Chapters 7, 8<br>• Take Chapters 7 and 8 Quizzes<br>• Complete essay Assignment (Kosovo) | 07/23/21 11:59pm |

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|---|---|---|---|
| Week 5 | Module 5: Jurisdiction (opens 06/28/21) | • Read Chapters 10, 11<br>• Take Chapters 10 and 11 Quizzes<br>• Complete essay Assignment (Hypothetical Scenario) | 07/30/21<br>11:59pm |
| Week 6 | Module 6: Maritime Law; Diplomacy (opens 06/28/21) | • Read Chapters 12, 14<br>• Take Chapters 12 and 14 Quizzes<br>• Complete essay Assignment (Diplomacy) | 08/06/21<br>11:59pm |
| | **There is no Final Exam** | | |

**Note:** All dates are subject to change by Dr. Bledsoe. Routinely check the class **Announcements** for any changes or updates.