Course: Public International Law
LAW Code: 729
Section 512

Instructor: Craig Martin
410-873-4192
cmartin2@ubalt.edu (preferred)
Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 1500-1600 hrs; or by appointment

Days/Time: Monday & Wednesday – 7:45 – 9:00 p.m.
Location: Room LC 206

Course Description:
This course is designed to give students a broad overview of public international law – the law that governs the conduct and relationships between states in the international system. Beginning with a study of the sources, subjects, and operation of international law, the course will move on to explore specific legal regimes such as human rights and the use of force. Please take a look at the detailed outline below to get a better sense of the topics that will be covered. There are no prerequisites.

Course Materials:
The materials are LORI F. DAMROSCH ET AL, (5TH ED. 2009), INTERNATIONAL LAW: CASES AND MATERIALS. In addition, several handout materials may be distributed through the course portal on TWEN during the course.

Course Objectives and Outcomes:
This course is designed to give students a broad understanding of Public International Law. The first half of the course will be spent learning about the nature of international law, its sources, the subjects and objects of the legal system, jurisdiction, immunity and national implementation, and the dispute resolution mechanisms that have developed to help implement and enforce the law. The second half of the course will be spent on an introduction to substantive areas of law, including state responsibility, through human rights, the use of force, international criminal law, injury to aliens, and the law of the sea regime.

Grades:
The grade for the course will be based on participation (15%), a class 5-10 minute presentation in the final week of the class (10%), and a final 3 hour open-book exam (75%).
**Assignments/Participation:**

The course will involve considerable class discussion and debate of the issues under examination each week. Students are expected to be familiar with the material for each class, and to be able to engage the issues on the basis of those readings. As indicated above, there will be a 5-10 minute presentation by each student in the final week of the course, on a subject to be selected by each student but approved by me no later than three weeks prior to the presentations. Presentations are intended to be based on some modest research of a specific international law problem, with a position for solution advocated by the student.

**Attendance:**

Class attendance is a primary obligation of each student whose right to continued enrollment in the course and to take the examination is conditioned upon a record of attendance satisfactory to the professor. A student who exceeds the maximum allowable allowances as illustrated below [Attendance Policy:  http://law.ubalt.edu/template.cfm?page=267 ] may be compelled to withdraw from the course, or may be barred from sitting for the final exam. Students who are forced to withdraw for exceeding the allowed absences may receive a grade of WA (withdrawal due to excessive absences) or a grade of WF.

**Course Web Page:**

This course has a WESTLAW - TWEN webpage that links to this syllabus, announcements, any class assignments, and other class materials. There will also be the option for online discussion of the issues under examination in the class.

**Computers**

Students may use laptop computers for the purposes of taking notes, or referring to notes prepared for class.

During the problem phase of the course, listening, thinking, and engaging in discussion will be far more helpful than taking notes, and minimum use of laptops will be encouraged.

The use of laptops for accessing social-networking sites, checking email, or otherwise surfing the internet, is forbidden, and may lead to the loss of privileges to use laptops.

**Class Cancellation**

If the instructor must cancel a class, notices will be sent to students via email and posted on the classroom door. If there is inclement weather, students should visit the University of Baltimore web page or call the University's Snow Closing Line at (410) 837-4201. If the University is not closed, students should presume that classes are running on the normal schedule.

**Academic Integrity:**

Students are obligated to refrain from acts that they know or, under the circumstances, have reason to know will impair the academic integrity of the University and/or the School of Law. Violations of academic integrity include, but are not limited to: cheating; plagiarism; misuse of library materials; use of another’s book or study materials without consent; unapproved multiple submissions; material misrepresentation of one’s academic history or
standing; misrepresentation of any academic matter; intentionally giving another student false or inaccurate information about class requirements; inappropriate discussion of exams; and misrepresenting or falsifying class attendance reports. [Reference to School of Law Honor Code http://law.ubalt.edu/template.cfm?page=477 ]

Disability Policy

If you are a student with a documented disability who requires an academic accommodation, please contact Karyn Schulz, Interim Director of Disability Support Services at 410-837-4141 or via email at kschulz@ubalt.edu.

Course Plan

The following is a rough guide to the pace at which the material will be covered. It may be adjusted as the course progresses. More specific reading assignments will be provided each week in advance – some sections of each chapter may be omitted. References are to the text, Damrosch et al., International Law: Cases and Materials.

Week 1 – Introduction to Public International Law, beginning of Treaty Law
  Reading: Chapter 1.
  Chapter 3 (beginning).

Week 2 – Sources of International Law – Treaty Law
  Reading: Chapter 3

Week 3 – Sources of International Law – Custom, General Principles and Others
  Reading: Chapter 2
  Chapter 4

Week 4 – Subjects of International Law – States
  Reading: Chapter 5

Week 5 – Subjects of International Law – Int’l Organizations, Individuals, Corporations.
  Reading: Chapters 6 & 7.

Week 6 – International Dispute Resolution.
  Reading: Chapter 9.

Week 7 – Jurisdiction, Immunity, and National Implementation.
  Reading: Sections from Chapters 11, 12, and 10.

Week 8 – State Responsibility.
  Reading: Chapter 8.
Week 9 – Human Rights
   Reading: Chapter 13.

Week 10 – Use of Force.
   Reading: Chapter 15.

Week 11 – International Criminal Law.
   Reading: Chapter 16.

Week 12 – Injury to Aliens
   Reading: Chapter 14.

Week 13 – The Law of the Sea
   Reading: Chapter 17.

Week 14 – Presentations and Review