

**National Security Law**  
773-512

**Professor Rob Knowles**

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Room AL 408

Monday & Wednesday, 6:15-7:30 p.m.

**Course Materials**

1. Casebook: DYCUS, BERNEY, BANKS, RAVEN-HANSEN, VLADECK, NATIONAL SECURITY LAW (6th ed. 2016) [CB]; ISBN: 9781454868323
2. Other materials will be available on the course TWEN page or emailed to you.

**Grading Policy**

To earn a high grade, you will be expected to participate regularly in class discussion and complete other assignments, including case presentations and in-class exercises. 25% of your grade will be based on the following: (1) reflection papers; (2) in-class presentations; (3) class attendance; and (4) participation in class discussion. The remainder of your grade will be based on the midterm exam (20%) and the final exam (65%).

**Attendance**

On-time attendance is mandatory. Students who miss more than five classes during the semester are subject to dismissal. I do not distinguish between “excused” and “unexcused” absences. Extenuating circumstances regarding excessive absences should be discussed with the Dean of Students.

I use a set of sign-in sheets to take attendance. If you do not sign in, you will be marked absent. It is a violation of the Law School’s Honor Code to sign another student’s name on the attendance sheet.

## **Student Learning Outcomes**

- Students will demonstrate an understanding of fundamental principles of National Security Law, including rules governing going to war, detention, targeting, covert action, intelligence gathering, and judicial review in the national security context.
- Students will apply the fundamental principles of National Security Law to different sets of facts through the completion of problems and other hypothetical situations;
- Students will better understand the interaction of government policy and legal frameworks;
- Students will reinforce and develop their understanding of how diverse frameworks of law interact as they work to become sophisticated users of legal rules;
- Students will develop their oral communication skills through presentations in class, simulations, and opportunities to teach other students key concepts; and
- Students will demonstrate an increased understanding of the subject matter through visual learning and engagement with many types of texts.

## **Participation**

Class will consist of discussion and group exercises. Participation in all class activities is mandatory. I will also assign group projects to be completed outside class and group presentations in class. Every student must be prepared to answer questions in every class. Students will be called on at random.

## **TWEN Page & Class Information**

Every student in this class must access the course TWEN page. The current version of the syllabus and copies of most handouts and assignments will be available on TWEN. Class announcements will be communicated through e-mail, so it is your responsibility to read messages regularly and follow instructions.

## **Office Hours**

My regular office hours are Wednesdays from 3-5 p.m. My office is 1011. You are free to drop by at other times, too, of course. If you want to make sure I'll be there, email me (rknowles@ubalt.edu) in advance and we'll arrange a time.

**Reading**

The following assignment list is *preliminary* and is intended only to give you a sense of the course structure. The list of assignments will almost certainly change during the semester as we adjust our discussion to address current events. For current and updated assignments, always check the course TWEN page.

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Subject(s)</b>	<b>Readings</b>
1	1/13	The Separation of National Security Powers	CB: 25-46
2	1/15	The President's National Security Powers, Part 1	CB: 53-70
	1/20	<b>MLK Day – School Closed – No Class</b>	
3	1/22	The President's National Security Powers, Part 2	CB: 70-89
4	1/27	The President's National Security Powers, Part 3	CB: 89-103
5	1/29	Congress's National Security Powers	CB: 105-123
6	2/3	International Law on Going to War: <i>Jus Ad Bellum</i>	CB: 253-275
7	2/5	Interpreting <i>Jus Ad Bellum</i>	CB: 385-394, 404-409
8	2/10	Case Study: Vietnam	CB: 317-338
9	2/12	Case Study: Vietnam and the War Powers Resolution	CB: 339-362
10	2/17	Midterm Review	TBA
11	2/19	Midterm Exam	
12	2/24	The Domestic Effect of International Law	CB: 177-197
13	2/26	The Extraterritorial Reach of U.S. Law	CB: 221-239
14	3/2	Suspending Habeas Corpus	CB: 857-74
15	3/4	Guantanamo Bay and International Law	CB: 197-219

16	3/9	International Law on Conducting War: <i>Jus In Bello</i>	277-296
17	3/11	Military Detention, Part 1	CB: 898-915
	3/16	<b>No Class: Spring Break</b>	
	3/18	<b>No Class: Spring Break</b>	
18	3/23	Military Detention, Part 2	CB: 940-946
19	3/25	Targeted Killing, Part 1	CB: 300-309
20	3/30	Targeted Killing, Part 2	CB: 424-39
21	4/1	Interrogation and Torture	CB: 993-1017
22	4/6	Surveillance, Part I	CB: 503-511, 517-34
23	4/8	Surveillance, Part II: The Fourth Amendment	CB: 592-614
24	4/13	Surveillance, Part III: FISA	CB: 633-59
25	4/15	Screening for Security	CB: 775-807
26	4/20	Covert Action, Part I	CB: 545-555
27	4/22	Covert Action, Part II	CB: 555-563
28	4/27	Review	TBA