

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MILWAUKEE
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
INTERNATIONAL LAW
Dr. Robert J. Beck
Fall 2007

Hybrid Course Format

This course relies on both face-to-face (on-campus, in-classroom) and Internet-based (online) instruction, a delivery approach sometimes known as "hybrid" or "blended." As students, you will be required to participate in both onsite and online instructional activities.

Why a Hybrid Course?

In hybrid courses, a significant portion of the learning activities has been moved online, and time traditionally spent in the classroom is reduced but not eliminated. My rationale for using a hybrid approach to teach "International Law" is four-fold:

- To accommodate the varied "learning styles" of students
- To allow self-paced (and multiple) reviews of substantive course materials
- To ensure an opportunity for weekly, systematic discussion with peers of challenging subject matter
- To enhance schedule flexibility for the student

How Have Students Reacted to Hybrid Courses?

From: <http://www.uwsa.edu/ttt/articles/garnham.htm>

	Agree	Disagree	No opinion
I could control the pace of my own learning.	69%	19%	12%
I could organize my time better.	77%	11%	12%
The time I spent online would better have been spent in class.	16%	67%	17%
There should be more courses like this.	61%	16%	23%

Expectations for This Hybrid Course

This course's online-based instructional activities are delivered through a course website that is hosted on UWM's "learning management system" called "D2L." The course's online learning activities, accessible through both on- or off-campus computers, are available 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week.

Students must:

- Be **willing and able to use computers**, the Internet and web browsers
- Use **high-speed-Internet-connected** (i.e., broad-band) computers, the internet and web browsers
 - If they own them, students may use such high-speed-Internet computers
 - If they do not own them, students should use the UWM Campus's Campus Computer Labs (CCL's), located here:
 - <https://www4.uwm.edu/imt/services/campus/ccls/>
 - Access to an iPod might be helpful but is in no way required
- Read and send e-mail, using their **UWM account** and **monitoring that UWM account daily**
- Read **electronic course materials** (e.g., case excerpts)
- View all assigned **online video** instructional modules
- Participate in **online discussions**
- Engage in **group and individual communication** exercises

Multimedia Instructional Materials

This course features a significant amount of online multimedia instructional material.

Each PowerPoint presentation is available in 3 different forms:

- “Voice over PowerPoint” presentation – you must listen/view one of the following versions:
 - Flash version – play from within the D2L site
 - Video podcast or “vodcast” version – identical in content to Flash version but
 - housed at UWM’s iTunesU site and
 - downloadable to, and playable from, your computer with iTunes installed or your iPod
- PowerPoint alone – to download and to print out, if you wish

This course assigns very modest readings: only two articles and some *very short* case excerpts. Accordingly, the online PowerPoint presentations should be understood as functioning as **both** your assigned readings and lectures.

Relevant Technology

The Learning Management System used at UWM, “Desire to Learn,” sometimes called D2L, available at <http://d2l.uwm.edu/>.

If you experience any problems with D2L access, please contact help@uwm.edu or call (414) 229-4040. The Help Desk is available 24-hours-per-day and can assist you with technical issues with the class.

Forwarding your e-mail (optional) can be done at: <https://www-ssl.uwm.edu/IMT/ePanther/email/>

Accessing D2L: <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/LTC/docs/firstdayhandout.doc>

Posting to an Online Discussion Board:

http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/LTC/student_help/forums.student.htm

Using D2L’s Drop Box: http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/LTC/student_help/dropbox.student.htm

File Viewers (Downloadable at no cost; these are required to view course materials unless you use a UWM Campus Computer Lab or own the full version of the software application -- e.g., Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, etc.)

- Microsoft PowerPoint 2003 Viewer:
<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyId=428D5727-43AB-4F24-90B7-A94784AF71A4&displaylang=en>
- Microsoft Word 2003 Viewer:
<http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyId=95E24C87-8732-48D5-8689-AB826E7B8FDF&displaylang=en>
- Adobe Acrobat Reader 8.1:
<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>
- Apple QuickTime Player for Windows:
<http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/win.html>
- iTunes 7 (Optional, for Podcasts):
<http://www.apple.com/itunes/download/>

Tips for Success in This Hybrid Course

- Make certain you know how to use D2L and related technology
- Make certain you either:
 - have broadband access yourself or
 - plan to use the UWM Campus Computer Labs
- Build, and take advantage of, a strong "online group" of course peers
- Stay up-to-date on assigned online materials
- Set aside a specific weekly time period (or periods) for D2L online discussion, submission of required case briefs to the D2L "drop box," and viewing of online materials
- Communicate with the instructor in person, by telephone (229-5974), or my e-mail (rjbeck@uwm.edu)

Optional

A scavenger hunt is a technique used to familiarize you with our course's D2L site. You should download the worksheet first. Then, you should click on the scavenger hunt itself. Both are available under **content**. The "scavenger hunt" is simply a PowerPoint presentation with detailed instructions. Once you are finished "hunting" through the course site, you will drop off your completed worksheet in the "drop box." You will receive bonus points for completing the hunt.

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - MILWAUKEE
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE**

POL SCI 316 – Fall 2007
Thursday 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM
END 107

Dr. Robert J. Beck
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Teaching Assistant: Ada Hyso - Bolton Hall 655

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Course Objectives

1. To teach the essentials of positive international law against the background of the realities of international relations and the normative requirements of international law.
2. To improve the student's analytical ability and capacity for effective oral presentation through the modified form of the "case method" followed in law schools.

Required Readings

Essays and Other Materials in Electronic Format

- All materials available in the course's D2L site.
- Essays available on e-reserve at Golda Meir Library - Reserve Section.
<http://www.uwm.edu/Library/ERES/beck/POLSCI316.html>

Case excerpts from Henkin, L., R. Pugh, O. Schachter & H. Smit, *International Law: Cases and Materials*, third edition (1993).

- Available in the course's D2L site.
- Available on conventional reserve at Golda Meir Library - Reserve Section.
- Available on e-reserve at Golda Meir Library -
<http://www.uwm.edu/Library/ERES/beck/POLSCI316.html>
- Casebook may be checked out of UW system libraries: KZ1242 .I58 1993
- U.S. Supreme Court and World Court opinions may also be accessed online from the links in the "Links" section of this course's D2L site.

Course Requirements and Important Dates

1. **Attendance at all face-to-face lectures.** Dates of lectures are indicated below in parentheses.
2. **Briefing of all 30 assigned cases** from casebook. 30 case briefs must be submitted on time to the course's D2L site's appropriate "Drop Box." (See below for required format and due dates).
3. **Viewing of assigned, online multimedia materials** and **weekly identification of "muddiest point"** (see below)
4. Active participation **in online group discussion** (see below)
5. **Two examinations** - Thursday, October 11, 2007; Thursday, November 8, 2007
6. **Final examination** - Friday, December 14, 2007 12:30-2:30 PM
7. Thursday, September 6, 2007 - first class meeting
8. Thursday, December 6, 2007 - last face-to-face class meeting before final examination
9. Thursday, November 22, 2007 - Thanksgiving, no class meeting
10. Please note the **Add/Drop Deadlines** for this course:
<https://www4.uwm.edu/DES/web/registration/changeregistration.cfm?term=1068&printerfriendly=yes>

Final grades will be based on the following formula:

Learning Objective	Assessment	& of Final Grade
Understanding of international law case decisions (relevant facts, rules and legal rationales)	On-time submission of type-written briefs of thirty 30 assigned international law cases. Average of 3 cases per week. (0.5 point for each on-time submission to D2L Drop Box of type-written case brief)	15
(a) Understanding of substantive international law materials presented in online mini-lectures; and (b) identification of "muddiest points" in those mini-lectures	Within assigned discussion group, using group's dedicated D2L online discussion board, weekly identification of a unique " muddiest point " from that week's mini-lecture by Wednesday at noon ; based on subsequent group discussion in online discussion board, group leader will e-mail the group's vote on a single muddiest point of the week to the instructor by Thursday at 8 AM (0.5 point for each on-time submission of weekly "unique muddiest point" – minimum of 10 weekly submissions required to receive full credit- 13 possible weeks)	5
By peer group discussion, enhanced understanding of: (a) International law case decisions; and (b) Substantive materials presented in online mini-lectures	Within assigned discussion group, using group's dedicated D2L online discussion board, weekly discussion of cases and substantive materials presented in online mini-lectures On advisory basis, in e-mail to teaching assistant, using rubric below, each student must assess the semester-long performance of each of that student's discussion group peers in the group's online discussion board The student will receive no points unless/until that student submits the required peer review (10 possible points)	10
Application of case (and other) international law rules and principles to new hypothetical scenarios	Exam 1 (20 possible points)	20
Application of case (and other) international law rules and principles to new hypothetical scenarios	Exam 2 (20 possible points)	20
Application of case (and other) international law rules and principles to new hypothetical scenarios	Exam 3 (30 possible points)	30

Rubric for "Peer Assessment of On-Line Discussion"

Criterion	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
Frequency of Participation (Beyond the separate required "Muddiest Point" Discussion)	Postings were extraordinarily active (4 or more substantive postings per week) 3.5 - 4 points (4 points for truly extraordinary)	Postings were very regular (2-3 substantive postings per week) 3 points	Postings were adequate (1 substantive posting per week) 2.5 points	Postings were relatively rare (less than 1 substantive posting per week) 2 points
Overall Quality of Participation	Postings were of generally excellent quality 5.5 - 6 points (6 points for truly extraordinary)	Postings were of generally good quality 5 points	Postings were of generally satisfactory quality 4.5 points	Postings were of generally poor quality 4 points

(1) In assessing the "**Frequency of Participation**," a "**substantive**" on-line discussion post is more than a few words or phrases in length (e.g., "ditto" or "I agree with Jim") and addresses a specific subject of the course (e.g., it would *not* include "Let's meet at Starbucks" or "anyone got notes from last Thursday's lecture?")

(2) An assessment of the "**Overall Quality of Participation**" should address such factors as the accuracy, sophistication, insightfulness, and helpfulness of that peer's participation.

Case Briefs Policy

Students will only earn credit for case briefs that are submitted on time to the course's D2L site's appropriate "Drop Box." Cases that will **NOT** receive credit include those submitted:

- a. by e-mail attachment
- b. after the due date
- c. to the wrong "Drop Box"
- d. not In Microsoft Word format

Conceptual Outline of Course

I. THE NATURE, SCOPE, AND STATUS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

- A. Introduction
- B. Is International Law "Law?"
- C. The Case Method
- D. Custom as a Source of International Law
- E. Treaties, General Principles, and Other Sources
- F. The Relationship of International Law to Domestic Law

II. THE SUBJECTS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

- A. Statehood and Recognition
- B. Non-state Entities and Self-Determination

III. SOVEREIGNTY OVER LAND TERRITORY

- A. Land and Territorial Sovereignty

IV. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

- A. General Principles and Reservations
- B. Interpretation
- C. Invalidity and Termination

V. JURISDICTION

- A. General Principles of Jurisdiction
- B. Conflicts of Jurisdiction

VI. INTERNATIONAL CRIMES AND HUMAN RIGHTS

- A. International Criminality and International Courts
- B. The Rwanda Case

VII. ENFORCEMENT AND IMMUNITY FROM JURISDICTION

- A. Enforcement Jurisdiction and Extradition
- B. Jurisdiction over the Irregularly Obtained
- C. Diplomatic Immunity
- D. Sovereign Immunity

WEEKLY CALENDAR

2007 School Week Beginning Monday	Online Materials To Read or View	Submission of "Muddiest Point"	Cases to Brief	Face-to-Face Class Meeting	Online Discussion
	On Monday or Tuesday of Week	Submit to D2L Before Wednesday noon	Submit to D2L Monday through Wednesday (Before Thursday 9:30 AM)	Thursday 9:30-10:45 AM	Participate Throughout Week in D2L
Week 1 September 3	Robert J. Beck, "Britain and the 1933 Refugee Convention"	Not required	None	September 6 Introduction and Is International law "Law?"	
Week 2 September 10	Robert J. Beck, "Grenada's Echoes in Iraq" "Operation Urgent Fury" Video	September 12	None	September 13 The Case Method	
Week 3 September 17	Does International Law Matter? Custom	September 19	September 20 Paquete Habana S.S. Lotus	September 20	
Week 4 September 24	Treaties, General Principles, and Other Sources	September 26	September 27 Western Sahara Missouri v. Holland Foster and Elam v. Neillson	September 27	
Week 5 October 1	IL and Municipal Law Break into 2 or 3 sections	October 3	October 4 Whitney v. Robertson Charlton v. Kelly U.S. v. Belmont	October 4	
Week 6 October 8	States, Governments, and Recognition	October 10	October 11 Tinoco Claims Salimoff v. Standard Oil	October 11 FIRST EXAM (Covers material <i>only</i> from weeks of September 3, 10, 17, 24 and October 1)	
Week 7 October 15	Government Recognition Non-state Entitites	October 17	October 18 Upright v. Mercury NPC of Iran v. M/T Stolt Sheaf U.N. Reparations Mavromatis Palestine Concessions	October 18	
Week 8 October 22	Land and Territorial Sovereignty	October 24	October 25 Island of Palmas Eastern Greenland Burkina Faso v. Republic of Mali El Salvador v. Honduras	October 25	
Week 9 October 29	Treaty General Principles and Reservations Treaty Interpretation Invalidity and Termination	October 31	November 1 Reservations to the Genocide Convention	November 1	
Week 10 November 5	Jurisdiction: General Principles	November 7	November 8 U.S. v. ALCOA Blackmer v. U.S.	November 8 SECOND EXAM (Covers materials only from weeks of October 8, 15, 22, and 29)	
Week 11 November 12	Conflicts of Jurisdiction	November 14	November 15 U.S. v. Fawaz Yunis Wilson v. Girard U.S. v. Bank of Nova Scotia	November 15	

<p>Week 12</p> <p>November 19</p>	<p>International Criminality and International Courts</p> <p>Streaming Video: <i>Triumph of Evil</i></p> <p>Optional: http://www.pbs.org/wqbh/pages/frontline/shows/evil/</p>	<p>November 21</p>	<p>November 22</p> <p>No cases</p>	<p>November 22</p> <p>Thanksgiving</p> <p>No face-to-face</p>	
<p>Week 13</p> <p>November 26</p>	<p>Enforcement Jurisdiction and Extradition</p> <p>Jurisdiction over the Irregularly Obtained</p>	<p>November 28</p>	<p>November 29</p> <p>U.S. v. Alvarez-Machain United States v. Iran</p>	<p>November 29</p>	
<p>Week 14</p> <p>December 3</p>	<p>Diplomatic Immunity</p> <p>Sovereign Immunity</p>	<p>December 5</p>	<p>December 6</p> <p>Schooner Exchange Dralle v. Czechoslovakia Argentina v. Weltover Argentine Republic v. Amerada Hess Shipping</p>	<p>December 6</p>	
<p>December 10</p>	<p>Students are encouraged to use online discussion groups to help prepare for final exam</p>			<p>Friday, December 14 12:30-2:30 PM – FINAL EXAM</p>	

GENERAL UNIVERSITY, DEPARTMENT, AND INSTRUCTOR COURSE-RELATED POLICIES

- **RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCES:** The instructor will provide "reasonable accommodation of a student's sincerely held religious beliefs with regard to all examinations and other academic requirements." Please inform your instructor of any conflicts between your academic responsibilities and your religious commitments.
- **DISABILITIES:** Any student with disabilities should inform the instructor of any special needs regarding examination procedures, seating in the classroom, or other matters, so that the instructor may make appropriate accommodations.
- **SEXUAL HARASSMENT:** Sexual harassment is reprehensible and will not be tolerated. It subverts the mission of the University, and threatens the careers, education experiences, and well-being of students, faculty, and staff. Students should report any incidents that may involve sexual harassment to the Department Chairperson, Marcus E. Ethridge < ethridge@uwm.edu , 229-3979>.
- **ACADEMIC HONESTY:** Students are required to comply with all university rules related to academic misconduct, including [Chapter UWS 14](#), entitled "Student Academic Disciplinary Procedures," of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. According to Political Science Department policy: "Students are responsible for the honest completion and representation of their work, for the appropriate citation of sources, and for respect of others' academic endeavors. Academic misconduct is taken very seriously, and penalties range from a grade of 'F' on the paper or examination on which misconduct occurred, to a grade of 'F' for the course, to expulsion."
- **EXAMINATIONS:** Students are required to take course examinations at scheduled times. Make-up examinations will be given under three circumstances only: (1) physical illness of student - doctor's excuse required; (2) death of family member; or (3) religious observance.
- **GRADE APPEAL PROCEDURES:** A student may appeal a grade received for a course or for a paper or examination. In the Political Science Department, the first step in any such appeal is to discuss the grade within 30 days from the date the grade was recorded. If this discussion does not resolve the matter, or if the instructor is unavailable during this period, the student must contact the Department Chairperson, Marcus E. Ethridge < ethridge@uwm.edu , 229-3979>. Students will be directed to submit the appeal to the Chairperson in writing within 10 working days of contacting the instructor. Grade appeals in Political Science courses will be assigned for review to a special committee if the complaint is not resolved through discussion among the Chair, the student, and the instructor. (A copy of the Department's grade appeal procedure is available in the Departmental office, [Bolton Hall 674](#)).
- **ADD/DROP PROCEDURES:** Please consult for university procedures and for the Fall 2007 deadlines chart: <https://www4.uwm.edu/DES/web/registration/changeregistration.cfm?term=1068&printerfriendly=yes>
- **TELEPHONE:** The instructor requests that you do not call him at his home. If you have an urgent concern, please send him an e-mail message and/or call his office: 414-229-5974.
- **MAILBOX:** By Department policy, student assignments will not be accepted in the Political Science Office.
- **TECHNOLOGY:** Computer, printer, or floppy disk failures are not acceptable excuses for a late assignment. Please make back-up copies of your computer files, keep multiple diskettes, and print out your assignment early. See discussion of "Hybrid" course above for further details.