

POLS 4333
International Law
Instructor: Dr. Sam Watson

Fall Semester 2023
Midwestern State University
PY 209
5:30 – 8:30 pm T

Office: O'Donohoe 119
Phone: 397-4746
Hours: By appointment

Course Description

POLS 4333 is an advanced hour, undergraduate lecture course on the history, theories, sources, and enforcement of international law. Topics to be covered include treaties and customary international law; the significance of states and institutions; international dispute resolution; international law and the United States; immunity and the act of state doctrine; the allocation of legal authority among states; international human rights; the use of force and arms control; the law of the sea; the law of airspace, aviation, and outer space; international environmental law; and, international criminal law.

Course Goals

The primary goal of this course is for each student to become better informed about, more interested in, and more aware of the role law plays in international relations. The course seeks to demonstrate to students the important relationship between international law and politics within the existing world system.

Required Materials

- 1) Carter, Weiner, and Hollis, *International Law*, 7th Edition

Strongly Recommended Materials

- 1) A map of the world and a map of the United States.
- 2) Carter, Weiner, and Hollis, *International Law: Selected Documents*, 7th Edition

Resource Materials

The University (Moffett) Library contains valuable resources which can aid students in their research and study for this course. In addition to many relevant books, a number of periodicals will be particularly useful (recent issues will be found on the current periodicals shelves; back issues are either bound or on microfilm/microfiche). A list of selected periodicals available in the library and local sources of broadcast media significant for political science research is attached to this syllabus.

Course Requirements

First Examination	October 3	20 percent
Second Examination	November 7	20 percent
Final Examination	December 12 (8 pm)	40 percent
Attendance		20 percent

The midterm and final examinations consist of a series of short answer questions. The second exam tests only the material covered since the first exam. The final exam, however, is cumulative.

In order to pass this class, a student must participate. Participation means coming to and preparing for class. Particular diligence needs to be paid to preparation of case briefs. Attendance will be checked by signature sheet.

Schedule of Assignments

8/29 – Introductory session
9/5 – Chapter 1
9/12 – Chapter 2
9/19 – Chapter 3
9/26 – Chapter 4
10/3 – First exam
10/10 – Chapter 5
10/17 – Chapter 6
10/24 – Chapter 7
10/31 – Chapter 8
11/7 – Second exam
11/14 – Chapter 9
11/28 – Chapters 10 and 11
12/5 – Chapter 12
12/12 – Final exam

No class

11/21