

### **IR 573: Introduction to Public International Law**

This course is an introduction to public international law for students of international relations. Emphasis throughout the course is both on the substantive rules of the law and on historical episodes that illustrate the various issues. By the end of the course, students should have a good understanding of the legal structures underpinning international relations.

Requirements for the course are a midterm exam (30%), a final exam (40%), and a paper (30%). The midterm exam is on February 21st, and the paper is due on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Students choose their paper topics in consultation with the instructor, and papers need to refer to the readings. Class attendance is mandatory and will be taken into account for calculating the final grade. If a student misses more than two lectures, the course grade will be taken down one level (i.e., from A to A-, or from B+ to B) for every lecture missed without a valid excuse, these being defined as religious holidays, medical problems, or personal tragedies.

Students are expected to do the readings of each week prior to the class for which they are listed. The readings include two textbooks and a number of other items. The textbooks are available for purchase and are Antonio Cassese, *International Law* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2001) and J. Martin Rochester, *Between Peril and Promise: The Politics of International Law* (Washington, DC: CG Press, 2006).

The instructor can be reached by telephone at 358 0193. Office hours are T. 2:00-3:30, or by appointment, and take place at 154 Bay State Road.

Students are expected to know and understand the provisions of the CAS academic code. Cases of suspected academic misconduct will be referred to the Dean's Office. No make-up exams will be given except in very exceptional circumstances – travel arrangements will not count as such.

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#### **Schedule of meetings:**

January 17: The Origins of International Law

Cassese, chapter 2.

January 22: The Nature of International Law

January 24: The Sources of International Law and the  
Relation between International Law and Municipal Law

Cassese, chapters 1; chapter 6 up to p. 126; chapter 7; chapter 8 up to p. 173;  
chapter 11.

Rochester, chapters 1 and 2.

January 29: States in International Law  
January 31: Recognition of States

Cassese, chapters, 3, 9.  
Barry Bartmann, "Political Realities and Legal Anomalies: Revisiting the Politics of International Recognition," in Tozun Bahcheli, Barry Bartmann, and Henry Srebrenik, eds., *De Facto States: The Quest for Sovereignty* (London: Routledge, 2004), pp. 12-31.

February 5: Territorial Sovereignty  
February 7: Borders

Cassese, chapter 5.  
Rochester, pp. 146-147.  
Steven R. Ratner, "Drawing a Better Line: *Uti Possidetis* and the Borders of New States," in Robert J. Beck and Thomas Ambrosio, eds., *International Law and the Rise of Nations*.

February 12: Treaties  
February 14: Treaties, continued

Cassese, chapter 6, pp. 127-138; chapter 8, pp. 173-181.

February 19: No class  
February 21: Midterm Exam

February 26: International Organizations  
February 28: The United United Nations

Cassese, chapters 13 and 14.

March 4: The European Union  
March 6: The Laws of War

Cassese, chapter 15.  
Rochester, chapter 5.

March 18: The Law of the Sea  
March 20: Continued, Air Space, and Antarctica

Robert Keohane and Joseph Nye, *Power and Interdependence*, pp. 86-98.  
Wolfe, chapter 12.  
Rochester, chapter 7.

March 25: The Peaceful Settlement of Disputes  
March 27: The International Court of Justice

Cassese, chapter 10

April 1: Self-Determination  
April 3: Human Rights

Hurst Hannum, "Rethinking Self-Determination," in Robert J. Beck and Thomas Ambrosio, eds., *International Law and the Rise of Nations*.  
Cassese, chapter 16.  
Rochester, chapter 4.

April 8: Humanitarian Intervention and the International Criminal Court  
April 10: International Environmental Law

Cassese, chapters 12 and 17.  
Rochester, chapter 8.

April 15: International Economic Law  
April 17: Continued

Rochester, chapter 6.  
Cassese, chapter 10, pp. 223-225, chapter 18.

April 22: Case Study: The Gulf Three Wars  
April 24: Continued

Ian Williams, "The Role of the United Nations," in Rick Fawn and Raymond Hinnebusch, eds., *The Iraq War: Causes and Consequences*.  
Anthony F. Lang Jr." in Rick Fawn and Raymond Hinnebusch, eds., *The Iraq War: Causes and Consequences*.  
Ove Bring and Per Broström, "The Iraq War and International Law," in Jan Hallenberg and Håkan Karlsson, *The Iraq War: European perspectives on politics, strategy and operations*.

April 29: Catching up with schedule  
May 1: Conclusions and Evaluations

Rochester, Chapter 9.