

## Semester II Spring 2012

CAS IR 310

The Sea in International Relations

Tuesday, Thursday 11-12:30

Room 101 154 Bay State Road

Professor Michael T. Corgan  
Dept. of International Relations  
156 Bay State Road  
Telephone: (617) 353-3553

Office Hours  
T & Th. 1:30-2:30 F 10:30-12  
Email: mcorgan@bu.edu

### OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

The purpose of this course is to study the one element of international affairs which is a concern to states in all the regions and involves all the functions that the International Relations Department studies: the sea.

International relations virtually began with use of the world's seas. The world's oceans and seas covering 70% of the globe's surface, most of which area has unique status as *res communis*, or territory open to all, continues to this day to be one of the major arenas where international affairs are continually conducted. The course will deal with the sea as an arena for international commerce, war, resource exploitation and environmental activism. All of these facets are tied up with the evolving nature of Law of the Sea. Finally, on the world's seas, as perhaps nowhere else, the impact of the smaller and the non-western states is being felt in world affairs.

The course covers:

- the sea as a venue for international commerce and trade
- the laws that have resulted principally from the above activities
- the use of the sea for the exercise of national military power
- current resource exploitation, bio-diversity, and pollution issues

The seas, their use and exploitation of their resources are open to all states of the world, even land-locked ones.

### REQUIRED TEXTS

Jeremy Black. **Naval Power**. Palgrave Macmillan: New York, 2009

Michael T. Corgan. **The Anglo-Icelandic Cod Wars**. [handout] 1998.

Peter Jacques. **Globalization and the World Ocean**. AltaMira: Lanham Md., 2006

Louis B. Sohn, John E. Noyes, Kristen Gustafson Juras and Erik Franckx. **The Law of the Sea in a Nutshell**. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. West Group: St. Paul, Minnesota, 2010.

Philip E. Steinberg. **The Social Construction of the Ocean**. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge, 2001.

Course Reader. University Readers

All texts are available at the BU bookstore (the Reader may not come in until late January). Black, Jacques and Sohn are also available from other sources.

## COURSE GRADING FACTORS

Attendance/participation	continuous	- 10% -
Exam 1	Tuesday 14 Feb	- 20% -
Exam 2	Tuesday 20 Mar	- 20% -
Exam 3	Tuesday 10 Apr	- 20% -
Final Examination	Tuesday 8 May 9-11 AM	- 30% -

## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

**Class Preparation and Attendance:** You are expected to come to class and are responsible for material covered in class. Some material presented in class lecture will not be elsewhere explained or dealt with. If you miss more than five classes *for any reason*, I will encourage your withdrawal from the class.

I expect that while in class you will behave so as not to disturb the others, e.g. no reading of newspapers, catching up on missed meals, or extraneous discussion. If you are late, enter the classroom and take a seat unobtrusively.

**Absences:** Absences are excused when there is, in my judgment, a valid reason. If you are absent because of a University approved function, you will need a written statement. University policy states that students "excessively absent" may be required to withdraw from the course "without credit." I consider that more than four absences from lectures for any reason (including illness) is excessive. Absences will **measurably** affect your grade and may cause you to be withdrawn from the course. The College requires taking attendance at class and we will.

**Scheduled exams/Deadlines:** These are all published above. If you miss a scheduled exam during the semester there will be no make up. If you have a valid, documented excuse for missing an exam, other grading factors will be adjusted accordingly. The Final Exam is scheduled for Tuesday 8 May at 0900. If this exam date is incompatible with your travel or holiday plans, **DO NOT TAKE THIS CLASS**.

**Instructor contact:** I am available to talk to you at the times specified in our office hours and I invite you to use these times to ask questions on things which are not clear to you. Chances are they may not be clear to others as well. Such questions often raise issues whose clarification at a following lecture benefits the entire class. Discussion of alternative theories of the subject matter or discussions of personal issues cannot be accommodated after class. I'll be happy to discuss them in the office.

**E-mail contact:** I respond to all e-mails as promptly as I can, usually within 24 hours. It is best to include the course number in your subject line. If I have not responded to your e-mail, you should not assume I have seen it. Though the e-mail system is very good for brief communications, e.g. arranging meetings or asking for a clarification on material covered, I will **not** use email as a substitute for discussions appropriate to office hours.

**Incompletes:** The CAS policy on incompletes - basis for granting, written contract for resolving, one year limit on, etc. - will be observed scrupulously.

**Academic Conduct:** All students are required know and understand the CLA Academic Conduct Code which gives the College policies on incompletes, plagiarism, cheating, and other conduct matters. A copy of this code is available at CAS 105. In short, all work must be your own.

## **IR 310 SCHEDULE AND READING ASSIGNMENTS**

### PART I: The Sea and International Intercourse

#### Week I

- Jan 17      **Introduction**
- Jan 19      **Physical Geography** of the seas and oceans

#### Week II

- Jan 24      **Territorial Political Economy and Ocean-Space**  
Steinberg: Introduction, Chapter 1
- Jan 26      **Ocean-space and Non-modern Societies**  
Steinberg: Ch. 2

#### Week III

- Jan 31      **Ocean-space and Merchant Capitalism**  
Steinberg Ch. 3
- Feb 2      **Ocean-space and Industrial Capitalism**  
Steinberg Ch. 4

#### Week IV

- Feb 7      **Ocean-space and Post-modern Capitalism**  
Steinberg, Ch. 5
- Feb 9      **Beyond Post-modern Capitalism**  
Steinberg, Ch.6 and Conclusion

#### Week V

- Feb 14      **EXAM 1**
- Feb 16      **Law of the Sea:** Nationality of Vessels; Baselines for Determining National Jurisdiction  
Sohn & Gustafson, Chapters I-III

#### Week VI

- Feb 21      **NO CLASS - MONDAY SCHEDULE**

Feb 23      **Law of the Sea: Boundaries; Internal Sea; Territorial Waters**  
Sohn & Gustafson, Chapters IV-VI

Week VII

Feb 28      **Law of the Sea: Resource Exploitation**  
Sohn & Gustafson, Chapters VII-IX (pp.172-185)

Mar 1        **Law of the Sea: Environment; Freedom of the Seas; Dispute Settlement**  
Sohn & Gustafson, Chapters X-XI

Week VIII

Mar 6        **The Cod Wars: Iceland, the UK, and Law of the Sea**  
Corgan: Handout

Mar 8        **Emerging Claims in the Arctic**  
Reader: Dodds and Briscoe & Prows articles

Week IX

Mar 20      **EXAM 2**

Mar 22      **Naval Power 1500-1660**  
Black: Chs. 1 & 2

Week X

Mar 27      **Naval power 1660 - 1815**  
Black Chs. 3 & 4

Mar 29      **Naval Power 1815-1945**  
Black: Chs. 5 & 6

Week XI

Apr 3        **Naval Power 1945- Future**  
Black Chs. 7 & 8

Apr 5        **Rivalry in the South China Sea, Growth of Piracy**  
Reader: Kaplan, Ross, Boot and Kraska & Wilson articles

Week XII

Apr 10      **Exam 3**

Apr 12      **Oceans and the Ecosystem**  
**Jacques: Chs. 1 & 2**

Week XIII

Apr 17      **Marine Political Ecology/ Resource Exploitation**  
Jacques: Ch. 3

Apr 19      **Sustainability: Southeast Asia and Caribbean Basin**  
Jacques: Chs. 4 & 5

Week XIV

Apr 24      **Sustainability: South Pacific and Whaling**  
Jacques: Ch. 6  
Handout

Apr 26      **Connecting the Parts of the World Ocean**  
Jacques: Chs. 7 & 8

Week XV

May 1      **Summary: *Economist's View***  
Handout

**May 8 Tuesday - Final Examination 0900-1100**