PS123A: The Politics of International Law  
Preliminary Course Syllabus--Subject to Change  
Winter 2019

Professor Leslie Johns  
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Bunche Hall, office #3381

Teaching Assistants:

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LOCATION and TIME:

Kinsey Teaching Pavilion 1200B  
TR 9:30 – 10:45 am  
Office hours for Prof. Johns: Wednesdays at 9:00--10:30 am

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This course will blend legal and political science approaches to international law.
• We will survey the major principles, issue-areas, and institutions of international law, with a special focus on investment, trade, human rights, use of force, and criminal law.
• We will examine how politics affects the creation and development of international law, and the willingness of states to comply with and enforce law.
This is an upper-level course designed for juniors and seniors.

ASSIGNMENTS and GRADING

Your grade in this course is based on the following:

Participation: 15%

Attendance at lectures, active participation in discussion sections, and demonstrated preparation and understanding of readings.

Quizzes: 15%

Short quizzes will be administered most weeks at the beginning of section meetings. These quizzes will consist of simple factual questions about the section readings. The
two lowest quiz grades will be automatically dropped. Make-up quizzes are not permitted: students who do not attend the section in which the quiz is administered will be given an automatic zero grade for that week’s quiz.

Midterm Exam (February 7): 30%

Final exam (March 22): 40%

There will be no make-up exams. If you miss an exam, you will receive a grade of zero. There will be no exceptions to this policy.

TEXTS

Required texts:

Casebook on the Politics of International Law --- available at the UCLA Bookstore

A copy of the Casebook will be placed on reserve in Powell College Library.

Other required readings:

These will be made available on the course web-site at:
https://moodle2.sscnet.ucla.edu/course/view/19W-POLSCI123A-1

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

All UCLA students are bound by UCLA’s Student Conduct Code, which is available at: http://www.deanofstudents.ucla.edu. As required by UCLA procedures, any suspected or alleged misconduct—including plagiarism and cheating—will be automatically reported to the Dean of Students. If you have any questions or concerns about what constitutes plagiarism, you should consult with your TA, professor, or the Office of the Dean of Students.
TOPICS and READINGS

(T) = reading for Tuesday lecture
(R) = reading for Thursday lecture

Week 1

Readings: (T, Jan 8) No reading---overview of syllabus and class policies
(R, Jan 10) Neff, Stephen C. (2006) "A Short History of International Law"

Section: No reading or quiz--get to know your TA

Week 2

Readings: (T, Jan 15) "Making International Law: Customary International Law"
(R, Jan 17) "Making International Law: Customary International Law"

Section: Casebook: North Sea

Week 3

Readings: (T, Jan 22) "Making International Law: Treaties"
(R, Jan 24) "Making International Law: Other Important Factors"

Section: Casebook: Nuclear Tests

Week 4

Readings: (T, Jan 29) "Breaking International Law"
(R, Jan 31) "Breaking International Law"

Section: Casebook: Iran Hostages

Week 5

Readings: (T, Feb 5) Review and/or Overflow Session
(R, Feb 7) Midterm Exam

Midterm Exam: Thursday, February 7 in lecture

Section: No reading or meetings (TAs will be grading)

Week 6
Readings: (T, Feb 12) "Trade Law"
(R, Feb 14) "Trade Law" & Casebook: GATT/WTO

Section: Casebook: US-Shrimp

Week 7
Readings: (T, Feb 19) "Investment Law"
(R, Feb 21) "Investment Law"

Section: Casebook: Cigarettes

Week 8
Readings: (T, Feb 26) Shaw, Malcolm N. (2017) "The International Protection of Human Rights"

Section: Casebook: Manifesting Religion

Week 9
Readings: (T, Mar 5) Casebook: Legal Materials on the Use of Force and Nicaragua
Section: Casebook: Oil Platforms

Week 10

Readings: (T, Mar 12) Shaw, Malcolm N. (2017) "Individual Criminal Responsibility in International Law"

(R, Mar 14) Casebook: Universal Jurisdiction and Criminal Immunity

Section: Casebook: Prosecute or Extradite

**Final Exam: Friday, March 22 @ 11:30 am -- 2:30 pm**