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PSC 433E.01: Introduction to International Law

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The course purpose is to provide an introduction to classical principles and contemporary issues of international law.

Course objectives: Upon successful completion of this course, the student should be able to demonstrate 1) factual knowledge of basic principles of classical and contemporary international law, as well as a sense of enduring ethical themes, 2) introductory familiarity with legal research sources, and 3) competence in writing a formal research paper and related exercises, which will be presented orally in class.

1. Basic reading for the course will be assigned from:

   L. Henkin et al., Intl Law: Cases & Materials (3rd ed)
   L. Henkin et al., Right v. Might: Intl Law & the Use of Force
   -- Wm Bishop, Intl Law casebook (3rd ed) -- on reserve in Library

2. Students will be expected to prepare in advance the case materials from the reading as the basis for class discussion. The preparation of case briefs will be explained in class. Regular attendance, preparation and participation will be an important part of the course grade.

3. Writing assignments due (3-5 pages): a) Paraphrase/Summary: due by Feb 27 (Fri); b) Essay: due April 24 (Fri). Assignments (10 points each) will be explained in class & may be re-written.

4. A 10-15 page term paper will be assigned & explained in class. Topic picked by Feb 27 (Fri); paper due March 27 (Fri) at BEGINNING OF CLASS. Late papers WILL NOT be graded, but are required for completing the course. Style manual: Kate L. Turabian, A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations (6th ed.). Papers are graded on the basis of use of legal scholarly resources, organization and clarity of prose (incl. grammar, punctuation & spelling) and formal paper mechanics (Turabian manual) (50 points)

5. There will be a 1-hour midterm (100 points) & 2-hour final: (200 points)

   MIDTERM: March 11 (Wed)
   FINAL: May 15 (Fri) -- 10:10-12:10

   Course Outline
   Reading
   (Henkin, Casebook)
   I. Nature, Sources, History of Intl Law: Ch. 1,2,3
   The State and Human Values
II. Membership in the Intl Community Ch. 4

III. Jurisdiction (Land, Sea, Persons) Ch. 4(cons't)12,14

IV. Individuals: Protecting People in a World of States Ch. 5(Sec.1,2,6,7)

V. Diplomacy: Statesmanship and Ethical Choices Ch. 7, 13

VI. Treaties (& other intl agreements) Ch. 6

VII. Modes of Redress Short of War, War & Neutrality Ch. 10, 11

VIII. Future of International Law: Ethical Relationships and Choices

Additional materials will be handed out in class.

Grading: Midterm (100 points)-- 25 % of final grade
Paraphrase/Summary (10 points)
Essay (10 points)
Research Paper (50 points)
Oral Participation/Attendance (30 points)
(100 points)--25 % of final grade
Final (200 points)--50 % of final grade

Grading scale: total score ÷ 4 (90s = A, 80s = B, 70s = C, 60s = D, 59 & below = F)

NOTE: Mon, Mar 9: last day to drop classes or change grading option