POLS 5333
International Law
Instructor: Dr. Sam Watson

Fall Semester 2011
Midwestern State University
PY 209
5:30 – 8:20 p.m. T

Course Description

POLS 5333 is a graduate 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


Strongly Recommended Materials

1) A map of the world and a map of the United States.
3) Schmidt, *Writing in Political Science*, 3rd 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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Examination</td>
<td>September 27</td>
<td>20 percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Examination</td>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>20 percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term Paper</td>
<td>November 29</td>
<td>30 percent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Examination</td>
<td>December 6 (8-10 p.m.)</td>
<td>20 percent</td>
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<td>Attendance</td>
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<td>10 percent</td>
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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 tests only the material covered since the second exam.

The term paper assignment requires students, in consultation with the instructor, to select an appropriate paper topic and prepare a properly referenced (APA or MLA style), twenty to thirty page, typed, double spaced paper. The instructor requests each student to prepare a brief prospectus and meet with him in an individual conference before finalizing a paper topic. All conferences must be held by September 20. The specific due date for the term paper is November 29.

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

8/23 – Introductory session
8/30 – Chapter 1
9/6 – Chapter 2
9/13 – Chapter 3
9/20 – Chapter 4
9/27 – First exam
10/4 – Chapter 5
10/11 – Chapter 6
10/18 – Chapter 7
10/25 – Chapter 8
11/1 – Second exam
11/8 – Chapter 9
11/15 – Chapter 10
11/22 – Chapter 11
12/29 – Chapter 12
12/6 – Final exam