

INTA 4060 / 8803 Syllabus Fall 2024

International Law, 3 credits

Tuesday and Thursday, 12:30 PM – 1:45 PM, Ivan Allen College (Habersham 136)

Instructor Information

Instructor

Dr. Evgeny Tikhonravov

Email

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Drop-in Hours & Location

Habersham 150, by appointment
T & R 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion

Description

The purpose of this advanced discussion and research seminar is to explore the place of international law in global affairs. It asks questions such as: What kind of law is international law and what needs does it fulfill? Where do particular legal rules come from and how do we know what they precisely mean? What role does international law play, and how does the interplay between law and politics operate in the actual decision-making of foreign policymakers and international organizations? Can the world be changed and improved through it?

Course Goals and Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will demonstrate an understanding of the reasoning inherent in international law and exhibit the ability to apply this comprehension to the analysis of real-world cases. Additionally, they will develop the skills to critically analyze some of the most significant and contentious issues in contemporary international law.

Course Requirements & Grading

Undergraduate students

Assignment	Date	Weight
Participation		10%
Midterm 1	10.03	28%
Presentation	11.12, 11.14	15%
Midterm 2	11.21	27%
Final exam	12.12	20%

Graduate students

Assignment	Date	Weight
Participation		10%
Midterm 1	10.03	13%
Midterm 2	11.21	12%
Research paper presentation	11.26	20%
Research paper	12.01	45%

Extra Credit Opportunities

No extra credit will be offered in this course.

Description of Graded Components

Participation (undergraduate and graduate students)

Active and regular participation in class discussions is expected from all students. Your participation will be assessed based on both the frequency and the quality of your verbal contributions. The materials for discussion—academic articles, excerpts from monographs and textbooks—are listed on the last page of this syllabus and will be available in the “Files” section on Canvas. Additionally, you can earn points by engaging in discussions on international law topics that extend beyond the assigned readings.

Midterm (undergraduate and graduate students)

The midterm exams will be closed-book and will consist of various question types, including short answer, multiple choice, true/false, fill-in-the-blank, multiple answer, and matching questions. Midterm 1 will cover material from the first part of class, and midterm 2 will cover

material from the second part of the class. Practice tests will be provided for each midterm to help students prepare. This assignment will require the use of Respondus LockDown Browser.

Final exam (undergraduate students)

The final exam will be closed-book. Students will select one question from a list provided by the instructor and answer it in the form of a short essay. The questions will cover material discussed in class. The final instructional class will be held prior to the exam to help students prepare. This assignment will require the use of Respondus LockDown Browser.

The short essays will be evaluated based on the following criteria: the essay is well-organized and logically structured, with a clear introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion; ideas are presented in a cohesive manner, with smooth transitions between paragraphs; the essay exhibits critical thinking skills and supports arguments with relevant evidence and examples; the essay does not exceed 600 words.

Presentation (undergraduate students)

Students should prepare and deliver a 15-minute presentation in pairs. The presentation should analyze a case decided either by the International Criminal Court or by the International Court of Justice.

The presentation should be created using PowerPoint or a similar software. Draft versions must be uploaded to Canvas by November 8, 2024.

Students are responsible for selecting their case for the presentation. Once you have chosen a case, please notify me via email.

Research paper and research paper presentation (graduate students)

The research papers should address an issue or problem related to international law. You are on the right track in selecting a research paper topic if there is a debate or disagreement about it in the world of policy, scholarship, or (even better) both. Upon selecting a research paper topic, please inform me via email.

Students will deliver a 20-minute research paper presentations, showcasing their research paper results. Research paper presentations should be prepared using PowerPoint or a similar software and uploaded to Canvas by November 22, 2024.

The paper's length should not exceed 4,000 words, excluding the title page, footnotes, and literature list. All papers should follow the Chicago Manual of Style. Direct quotations are preferred over paraphrasing.

The research papers will be assessed based on the following criteria:

- **Organization and Structure:** The paper should demonstrate a well-organized and logically structured approach. It should include a table of contents, a brief abstract, a clear introduction

providing an overview of the paper’s structure, well-defined sections, coherent body paragraphs, and a concise conclusion. Transitions between sections and paragraphs should be smooth, enhancing the flow of the paper.

- **Depth of Analysis:** The paper should delve into the topic with sufficient depth, providing a comprehensive analysis within the given word limit. It should showcase a strong grasp of the academic literature by incorporating relevant citations. I will appreciate it if you refer to academic literature not only in the English language but also in other relevant languages.
- Research papers submitted after the deadline will receive a grade of zero.

Please note that a research paper is not expected to meet the same level of originality as a submission to an academic journal. The emphasis should be on demonstrating research and analytical skills, critical thinking, and engagement with the topic.

Presentation slides

After each lecture, I will upload the presentation slides to the “Files” section on Canvas. These slides are for your educational use only and should not be shared in any form. Please be aware that missing a class may make it difficult to fully grasp the content of the slides. Moreover, while the PowerPoint presentations will be available, they may not cover every issue or topic discussed during lectures. Therefore, regular attendance and diligent note-taking are crucial for performing well on exams.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be assigned as a letter grade according to the following scale:

A	90-100%
B	80-89.99%
C	70-79.99%
D	60-69.99%
F	0-59.99%

Course Texts

Shaw, M. (2021). *International Law* (9th ed.). Cambridge University Press (hereafter “Shaw”).¹

Course Website and Communications Policy

The Canvas site will host essential course information, including the syllabus, reading materials, and course announcements. Ensure that you have enabled notifications for all course-related communications on Canvas.

Academic Integrity and Collaboration

Cheating, plagiarism, and all forms of academic dishonesty are expressly forbidden in this class, and by the university’s Honor Code (<http://honor.gatech.edu/content/2/thehonor-code>). Any form

¹ I will provide guidance on how to use this course text during the course introduction on August 20.

of cheating will immediately earn you a failing grade for the entire course, and I will pursue further disciplinary actions according to Georgia Tech's policies and procedures (see <http://honor.gatech.edu/plugins/faq/> for more information on this).

Here are the things you need to know to ensure that you are working within the constraints of both the university's policy, and my expectations for this course:

1. Research paper

Your research paper should be crafted and written on your own. You may talk with others about your ideas, but you should be working by yourself on the actual outline and content. If you need further assistance with your paper please consider joining me during my office hours, or making an appointment with the Communication Center (<http://www.communicationcenter.gatech.edu/>). In addition, you are required to cite all sources you use in your paper. This includes both direct quotations and cases where you use someone else's ideas. "Sources" include papers, journals, anything found on the internet, and so on. Basically, if the thought did not originate with you, you should provide a source.

2. Campus resources

You are permitted (and even encouraged) to make use of the academic support services offered by The Center for Academic Success (<http://www.success.gatech.edu/>) and the Communication Center (<http://www.communicationcenter.gatech.edu/>).

Accommodations for Learning Needs

If you have learning needs that require some adaptations for you to succeed in this course, please contact the Office of Disability Services on campus (<http://disabilityservices.gatech.edu/>). I am happy to arrange to accommodate your learning needs based on their recommendations.

Class Presence and Make-up Exams

There are no penalties for unexcused absences, and you are not required to provide an explanation for missing class. However, attendance will be taken at each class session.

Please ensure you are familiar with the course schedule well in advance and plan accordingly, including any travel arrangements, to avoid scheduling conflicts with the course schedule. Make-up exams will be given only for documented reasons of illness, family emergency, or participation in approved Institute activities (see <http://catalog.gatech.edu/rules/12/> for more information).

Re-grading and Re-submission

Requests for regrading may be submitted in writing within two days of the day you received the grade. You must justify in writing the technical basis for the regrade. If the request is accepted, your assignment may be regarded.

Student-Faculty Expectations

At Georgia Tech we believe that it is important to continually strive for an atmosphere of mutual respect, acknowledgment, and responsibility between faculty members and the student body. See

<http://www.catalog.gatech.edu/rules/22.php> for an articulation of some basic expectations – that you can have of me, and that I have of you. In the end, simple respect for knowledge, hard work, and cordial interactions will help build the environment we seek. In other words, I encourage you to remain committed to the ideals of Georgia Tech, while in this class.

Use of Mobile Devices, Laptops, etc. During Class

As research on learning shows, unexpected noises and movement automatically divert and capture people's attention, which means you are affecting everyone's learning experience if your cell phone, laptop, etc. makes noise or is visually distracting during class. That said, many students find it useful to have a mobile device on hand to access course materials. With this in mind, I allow you to take notes on your laptop, but request that you turn the sound off so that you do not disrupt other students' learning. In addition, if you are doing anything other than taking notes or looking at course materials on your laptop, please sit in the back row so that other students are not distracted by your screen.

Food and Drink

Please feel free to bring your food and drink with you to class. However, please be mindful of your setting: avoid strong smells, food that is likely to make a mess, and food that makes it difficult to engage with class discussion and/or taking notes. In addition, please be sure to clear your garbage when you leave, and wipe your desktop for the next student sitting in your seat.

Recording Classroom Activities

Recording of our classes is not allowed. This policy can be waived for students with accommodations upon explicit recommendation from the Office of Disability Services. You are welcome to take notes and photos of the board.

Statement on Inclusion

The Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts supports the Georgia Institute of Technology's commitment to creating a campus free of discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or veteran status. We further affirm the importance of cultivating an intellectual climate that allows us to better understand the similarities and differences of those who constitute the Georgia Tech community, as well as the necessity of working against inequalities that may also manifest here as they do in the broader society.

Final Caveat

This syllabus is to be considered a living document and therefore subject to change. Any major changes will be discussed with the class and posted to Canvas. If you have any questions about what you see on the syllabus, please email me to discuss.

Course Schedule

Date	Topics	Shaw	Materials for Discussion ¹
08.20 (T)	Course Introduction		
08.22 (R)	The Sources of International Law 1	Ch. 3	
08.27 (T)	The Sources of International Law 2		
08.29 (R)	The United Nations	Ch. 21	
09.03 (T)	International Human Rights Law	Ch. 6	Milanovic
09.05 (R)	Self-Determination of Peoples 1	Pp. 187-9; 228-35; 258-61	Cassese
09.10 (T)	Self-Determination of Peoples 2		Kohen
09.12 (R)	Recognition	Ch. 8	
09.17 (T)	Use or Threat of Force by States 1	Ch. 19	Malanczuk
09.19 (R)	Use or Threat of Force by States 2		Akande, Taft, Ruys
09.24 (T)	Use or Threat of Force by States 3		Visser
09.26 (R)	International Intellectual Property Law (guest lecture)		
10.01 (T)	Practice test for Midterm 1		
10.03 (R)	Midterm 1		
10.08 (T)	International Humanitarian Law 1	Ch. 20	
10.10 (R)	International Humanitarian Law 2		Cassimatis
10.15 (T)	No class		
10.17 (R)	International Criminal Justice	Ch. 7	Schramm
10.22 (T)	International Criminal Court		
10.24 (R)	International Court of Justice	Ch. 18	Barelli
10.29 (T)	Diplomatic and Consular Law 1	Pp. 651-72	Zabyelina
10.31 (R)	Diplomatic and Consular Law 2		Aceves
11.05 (T)	Artic International Status (online guest lecture)		
11.07 (R)	War in Ukraine		Kamminga
11.12 (T)	International Criminal Court – presentations		
11.14 (R)	International Court of Justice – presentations		
11.19 (T)	Practice test for Midterm 2		
11.21 (R)	Midterm 2		
11.26 (T)	Research Paper Presentations		
11.28 (R)	No class		
12.03 (T)	Final Instructional Class		
12.12 (R)	Final Exam (11:20 AM – 2:10 PM)		

¹ Materials for discussion will be available in the “Files” section on Canvas.