

SYLLABUS
International Business Law
SPRING 2011

Class: BLAW 3670 Int'l Bus Law Room: Stranahan 0131
Time: 7:20-8:35 Tues/Thurs

Instructor: Mark Davis, Juris Doctorate, Certificate of Int'l Bus. Transactions,
Bachelors of Science in Finance, Economics, French, & German

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Texts: Online Course Packet ONLY

I. Introduction and Course Description

International business is different and unique from the ordinary business transactions due to the interplay and importance of international law. This class seeks to give a broad and introductory understanding of international business law and the most recent changes from current events.

You will be expected to be prepared for each class, and to take an active role. This means you can expect to be called upon to analyze cases, voice opinions, and argue points of law. Anything in the assigned readings is fair game. Nothing said in class should be relied upon as legal advice. If you think you need a lawyer, hire one.

On exams, you will not be asked simply to recite law or use legal terms in sentences. You must think. You will be asked to reason to logical conclusions based upon your understanding of the law. If you learn how to reason, you will always know how to apply that knowledge to understand the legal implications of your actions or of a situation.

II. Course Objectives

1. To provide broad understanding to international law.
2. To provide an understanding of the interplay between international law and current events.
3. To provide a basic understanding of the mechanics of an international business transaction, including letters of credit and application of the CISG.

III. Teaching Methodology

Law is taught differently from most classes you may have taken. Primarily, law is taught in the United States through the Socratic method which is a series of questions posed to students for them to reason out the logic of the law. Under the Oxford method, students learn through reading, without instruction, and then reporting back to their professors what they have learned. This class will combine lecture, Socratic, and Oxford styles.

IV. Course Standards

1. 100% attendance. However smart you may be, you cannot reach your fullest learning potential without attending and participating in class. Thus, 100% class attendance is expected and desired. Given that your commitment to the class may, at times, conflict with a family emergency, sickness, funeral or job interview, you will be granted two absences with a valid, legitimate reason, thereafter each absence costs 5% of your final grade. Beyond those two absences, the choice to attend is yours and the cost of your absence is clear so long as you are willing to pay the price for it.

2. Active and aggressive participation

3. Plagiarism and cheating is grounds for automatic failure. University policy concerning academic integrity will be applied.

V. Grading

Grading will be done through two written exams (midterm of 25% and final at 50%) and then class participation for another 25%. Class participation is graded through simple contribution. Any contribution equals 10% of the total 25%. Thus, 10 contributions during the semester equates to a 100% as to this 25% of your grade.

<u>Letter Grade</u>	<u>Standard of Performance</u>	<u>Quality Points</u>
A	94-100 Outstanding	4.0
A-	89-93 Excellent	3.67
B+	85-88 Very High Quality	3.33
B	81-84 High Quality	3.0
B-	78-80 Above Average	2.67
C+	75-77 Slightly above average	2.33
C	71-74 Average	2.0
C-	68-70 Slightly below average	1.67
D+	65-67 Slightly above minimum	1.33
D	61-64 Minimal	1.0
D-	58-60 Barely above	0.67