

POL4038: INTERNATIONAL LAW

Dr. Rosco Williamson
Spring 2022

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Course Materials

- Paola Gaeta, et al (2020), *Cassese's International Law*, 3rd ed. (Oxford University Press)
- Michelle Foster and Helene Lambert (2019), *International Refugee Law and the Protection of Stateless Persons* (Oxford University Press)

Course Learning Outcomes

After taking this course, you will be able to:

- Describe what “international law” is and what it is not
- Identify the sources of international law
- Explain the interaction of international law development and various International Relations theories (especially Realism, Liberalism, and Constructivism)
- Identify and summarize key cases of international law
- Evaluate what role, if any, international law has played in constraining the use of force and protecting refugees and stateless persons
- Analyze the function of international law in a variety of contemporary international issue areas and its role in the future of the international community

Course Objectives

The study of international law is not new. A historical examination of international law would require starting in the Roman Republic over 2,000 years ago. The “law of nations,” as it was called then, has evolved into today’s “international law” and looks very different from its earlier manifestations. Globalization has brought diverse societies into relatively constant contact with one another, while the horrors of the 20th century have demonstrated what can happen if these contacts are not regulated by some generally agreed-upon principles and norms.

Despite some criticism and skepticism about the nature and role of international law, Professor Louis Henkin is correct when he states that “it is probably the case that almost all nations observe almost all principles of international law and almost all of their obligations almost all of the time.” This makes the study of both the content and creation of international law crucial to fully understanding international relations as they are practiced today and in the future.

Thus, our objective in this course, broadly speaking, is twofold. First, we will examine current international law to understand what it is that States observe. This will entail learning the content of these principles, but also understanding why States observe these principles in the absence of centralized institutions that can effectively apply sanctions for violations of the law. More specifically, we will take several weeks to look at one particular principle of international law: international humanitarian war (i.e. the laws of war). As the US (and others) uses force, we’ll examine the legal limits to these uses. We will look specifically at how these laws may impact civilians caught in the crossfire of conflict: refugees and internally displaced persons. Second, we will examine the creation of international law – in short, why we have the current set of laws (and not different ones). Again, we spend several weeks examining the role of power in

establishing the current set of principles and laws observed today. In addition, we will look at how, once established, these rules can act as restrictions on the power that created them. These topics are especially important as we consider what new rules may evolve, why, and the impact they will have (if any) on the actions and behaviors of States and individuals in the future.

At a minimum, international law is often an effective, efficient, and useful collective-action solution for addressing issues, preventing problems, and changing undesirable behavior. To that end, a better understanding of the nature, content, and limits of international law will serve to make the world more just, more safe, and a place where each human being can best realize her or his own potential.

Program Learning Outcomes

PLO 6: You will be able to demonstrate oral communication abilities, particularly to convey complex ideas, recognize diverse viewpoints, and offer empirical evidence of an argument.

- Class discussions

PLO 4: You will be able to construct and evaluate analytical, comprehensive arguments.

- Case summaries and briefs
- Exams

Course Grading

The following is the breakdown of how the final grade will be determined:

25%	Exam #1
30%	Final Exam
20%	Case summaries
10%	Briefs
15%	Attendance and Participation

The final exam will be cumulative.

Attendance and Participation

Attendance is very important in a core course since this is a discussion class. Attendance is 7% of the total grade and will be calculated in the following manner:

# of classes missed	Attendance grade
0-1	7
2	6
3	5
4	4
5	3
6	2
7	1
8	0
9	dropped from course

Participation is a subjective measure of the how involved in class discussions a student is. Quantity does not impress me as much as quality – the student who just talks to be heard better have something that adds to the discussion. However, everyone should participate and 8% of the total grade will be a subjective judgment of how well you added to class discussions. **Warning: as in a law school class, I will call on people during class to answer questions, so be prepared!!! Yahoo!!!**

Case Summaries

Several of the court cases listed in the schedule of readings below have three asterisks (***) in front of them. Each student will turn in a one-page case summary for that particular case on the day it is scheduled to be read. The professor will provide a template (and in some cases other information) that the brief should follow.

- 1/19 *Reference re Secession of Quebec* (1998)
- 1/21 *The Tinoco Claims Arbitration* (1923)
- 1/24 *Island of Palmas Case* (1928)
- 1/26 *Banco Nacional de Cuba v Sabbatino* (1964)
- 1/28 *Reparation for Injuries Suffered in the Service of the UN* (1949)
- 2/2 *The Lotus Case* (1927)
- Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons* (1996)
- 2/4 *North Sea Continental Shelf Cases* (1969)
- Reservations to the Convention on Genocide* (1951)
- 2/7 *Nuclear Tests Case* (1974)
- 2/21 *Gabcikovo-Nagymaros Project* (1997)
- 2/28 *Nicaragua Case* (1986)

- 3/4 *Prosecutor v Tadic* (1995)
- 3/16 *Nicaragua Case* (1986)
- 3/18 *Oil Platforms Case* (2003)
- Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory* (2004)
- 4/20 *Ex Parte Pinochet* (1999)
- 4/22 *Prosecutor v Jean-Paul Akayesu* (1999)
- 4/25 *The Trail Smelter Case* (1941)
- 4/27 *Gabcikovo-Nagymaros Project* (1998)

Briefs

There will be several assigned briefs in this class. These are due when they are due. No late briefs will be accepted. Essentially, in a brief you will be asked to apply the principles and laws learned in the course to specific world events given by the instructor.

I encourage you to **work together in groups**, even though every person's work must be their own. Some people will catch things others will miss – you can help each other more than I can help you sometimes. Make sure *you* understand the briefs before you turn them in.

The more I get the impression that the class is not reading the material as it should, the more briefs will be given. Save yourself more work down the road by doing the reading and coming to class prepared to discuss it.

Final Examination Policy

Successful completion of this class requires taking the final examination **on its scheduled day**. No requests for early examinations or alternative days will be approved.

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PLNU Academic Honesty Policy

Students should demonstrate academic honesty by doing original work and by giving appropriate credit to the ideas of others. Academic dishonesty is the act of presenting information, ideas, and/or concepts as one's own when in reality they are the results of another person's creativity and effort. A faculty member who believes a situation involving academic dishonesty has been detected may assign a failing grade for that assignment or examination, or, depending on the seriousness of the offense, for the course. Faculty should follow and students may appeal using the procedure in the University Catalog. See Academic Policies for definitions of academic dishonesty and for further policy information.

PLNU Academic Accommodations Policy

If you have a diagnosed disability, please contact PLNU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) within the first two weeks of class to demonstrate need and to register for accommodation by phone at 619-849-2486 or by e-mail at DRC@pointloma.edu. See Disability Resource Center for additional information.

PLNU Attendance and Participation Policy

Regular and punctual attendance at all classes is considered essential to optimum academic achievement. If the student is absent from more than 10 percent of class meetings, the faculty member can file a written report which may result in de-enrollment. If the absences exceed 20 percent, the student may be de-enrolled without notice until the university drop date or, after that date, receive the appropriate grade for their work and participation. See Academic Policies in the Undergraduate Academic Catalog.

PLNU Mission To Teach – To Shape – To Send

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modelled and formed, and service is an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we strive to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

INTERNATIONAL LAW – SCHEDULE OF READINGS

PART I: FOUNDATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

SECTION A: FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES

1/11 Introduction

1/12 Cassese 1, “The Main Legal Features of the International Community,” 3-19

- Louis Henkin (1995), *International Law: Politics and Values*: 4-5
- John Austin (1832), *The Province of Jurisprudence Determined*: 133, 201
- Hans Kelsen (1967), *Pure Theory of Law*: 215-17
- Louis Henkin (1979), *How Nations Behave*: 25-26, 320-21
- Louis Henkin (1979), *How Nations Behave*: 89-90, 92-95, 97-98

1/14 Cassese 2, “The Historical Evolution of the International Community,” 20-44

- Philip Allott (1990), *Eunomia: New Order for a New World*: 416-19
- Richard Falk (1992), *Explorations at the Edge of Time*: 198-213
- W Michael Reisman (1990), “International Law after the Cold War,” *American Journal of International Law* 84(4): 859-64

1/17 NO CLASS – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

1/19 Cassese 3, “The Fundamental Principles Governing International Relations,” 45-76

- “Friendly Relations Declaration,” UN General Assembly Resolution 2625
- ****Reference re Secession of Quebec* (1998), Supreme Court of Canada

SECTION B: INTERNATIONAL LEGAL SUBJECTS

1/21 Cassese 4, “States as the Primary Subjects of International Law,” 79-91

- UN Security Council Resolution 217
- ****The Tinoco Claims Arbitration* (1923)
- *Salimoff & Co. v Standard Oil of NY* (1933), NY Court of Appeals
- “Statement of the United States on Withdrawal of Recognition from Government of the Republic of China (Taiwan)” (1979)
- Kristen E Eichensehr, ed. (2021), “United States Recognizes Morocco’s Sovereignty Over Western Sahara,” *American Journal of International Law* 115: 318-23
- *Conference for Peace in Yugoslavia Arbitration Commission Opinion No. 9* (1992)

1/24 Cassese 5, “The Spatial Dimensions of State Activities,” 92-121

- ****Island of Palmas Case* (1928), Permanent Court of Arbitration
- *Legal Status of Eastern Greenland Case* (1933), PCIJ
- *Case Concerning the Frontier Dispute (Burkina Faso/Mali)* (1986), ICJ
- Steven Ratner (1996), “Drawing a Better Line: *Utī Possidetis* and the Borders of New States,” *American Journal of International Law* 90: 590-91

1/26 Cassese 6, “Immunities of States and State Officials,” 122-39

- ****Banco Nacional de Cuba v Sabbatino* (1964), US Supreme Court
- *The Second Hickenlooper Amendment* (1964)
- Louis Henkin (1967), “Act of State Today: Recollections in Tranquility,” *Columbia Journal of Transnational Law* 6: 178-82

- Frederick A Mann (1973), "International Delinquencies before Municipal Courts," in *Studies in International Law*: 378-80

1/28 Cassese 7, "International Organizations," 140-55

- ****Reparation for Injuries Suffered in the Service of the UN* (1949), ICJ (361-68)
- Ramesh Thakur and William Maley (1999), "The Ottawa Convention on Landmines," *Global Governance* 5: 273, 280-85

1/31 Cassese 8, "Individuals and Other Legal Subjects" 156-78

- Paul K Wapner (1995), "Politics Beyond the State: Environmental Activism and World Civic Politics," *World Politics* 47: 311-13, 318, 320, 329
- Sol Picciotto (1999), "What Rules for the World Economy?" in Ruth Mayne and Sol Picciotto, eds., *Regulating International Business*: 6-7
- *Case Concerning the Barcelona Traction, Light and Power Company* (1970), ICJ

PART II: CREATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

SECTION A: SOURCES

2/2 Cassese 9A, "Law-Making Processes: Custom," 181-95

- *Statute of the ICJ*, Article 38
- ****The Lotus Case* (1927), PCIJ
- ****Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons* (1996), ICJ
- *Asylum Case* (1950), ICJ

2/4 Cassese 10, "The Law of Treaties," 204-17 (and opinio juris)

- ****North Sea Continental Shelf Cases* (1969), ICJ
- *Nicaragua Case* (1986), ICJ
- Jack L Goldsmith and Eric A Posner (2005), *The Limits of International Law*: 23-26
- ****Reservations to the Convention on Genocide* (1951), ICJ
- *Jesse Lewis Claim* (1910), Claims Arbitration
- Eduardo Jimenez de Arechaga (1978), *International Law in the Past Third of a Century*: 42-48

2/7 Cassese 9B, "Law-Making Processes," 195-203

- Frederick A Mann (1957), "Reflections on a Commercial Law of Nations," *British Yearbook of International Law* 33: 20, 34-39
- Wolfgang Friedmann (1964), *The Changing Structure of International Law*: 197
- *The Diversion of Water from the Meuse Case* (1937), PCIJ
- *Corfu Channel Case* (1949), ICJ
- ****Nuclear Tests Case* (1974), ICJ

SECTION B: CONFLICTING OR COMPLEMENTARY HIERARCHIES?

2/9 Cassese 11A, "Hierarchical Relations among International Legal Norms," 218-21, 232-43

- Humphrey Waldock (1962), *General Course on Public International Law*: 49-53
- *Human Rights Committee General Comment No. 24* (1994)
- Ian Sinclair (1984), *The Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties*: 222-24
- *Filartiga v Pena Irala* (1980), US Court of Appeals
- Amy Howe (Jun 17, 2021), "Justices Scuttle Lawsuit against Nestle, Cargill for Allegedly Aiding Child Slavery Abroad," *Scotus Blog*

2/11 Cassese 11B, "Implementation and Hierarchy of Norms," 221-32

- *The Paquete Habana* (1900)
- Louis Henkin (1987), "The Constitution and United States Sovereignty," *Harvard Law Review* 100: 867-78
- *US v Belmont* (1937), US Supreme Court
- Harold Hongju Koh (1998), "Bringing International Law Home," *Houston Law Review* 35
- Jed S Rakoff (2015), "A Fear of Foreign Law," *New York Review of Books*: 14, 16

SECTION C: DOES POWER DETERMINE NORMS?

2/14 Jack L Goldsmith and Eric A Posner (2005), *The Limits of International Law*, ch. , 23-43

- Lori Damrosch (1997), *Enforcing International Law through Non-Forcible Measures*: 19-22, 24
- Richard Falk (1964), "The Adequacy of Contemporary Theories of International Law," *Virginia Law Review* 50: 249-50
- Hans Morgenthau (1985), *Politics Among Nations*: 312
- JL Brierly (1963), *The Law of Nations*: 100-02

2/16 Michael Byers (1999), *Custom, Power and the Power of Rules*, chs. 4 & 6, 53-74, 88-105, 216-21

SECTION D: DO NORMS CONTRAIN POWER?

2/18 Ruti Teitel (2002), "Humanity's Law," *Cornell International Law Journal* 35(2)

- Alexander Wendt (1992), "Anarchy is What States Make of It," *International Organization*

SECTION E: COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

2/21 Cassese 12, "International State Responsibility for Wrongful Acts," 245-75

- *Barcelona Traction Case* (1970), ICJ
- *Rainbow Warrior Case* (1990), France-New Zealand Arbitration Tribunal
- ****Gabcikovo-Nagymaros Project* (1997), ICJ

2/23 NO CLASS – Mental Health Day

2/25 Cassese 13, "Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes," 276-93

- *UN Charter*, Articles 2(3), 33(1-2), 34-38
- *Statute of the ICJ*, Articles 34-38

2/28 Cassese 14, "Enforcement," 294-310

- ****Nicaragua Case* (1986), ICJ
- Abraham D Sofaer (1985), "Statement of Legal Adviser of State Department," *Department of State Bulletin* 86: 70-71
- *Kadic v Karadzic* (1995), US Court of Appeals

3/2 Exam #1

PART III: THE USE OF FORCE

SECTION A: THE UNITED NATIONS

3/4 Cassese 15, "The Role of the United Nations," 313-34

- *Covenant of the League of Nations* (1919), Art. 16
- *The Kellogg-Briand Pact*
- Louis Henkin (1979), *How Nations Behave*: 137-38
- ****Prosecutor v Tadic* (1995), ICTY

3/7-3/11 NO CLASS – Spring Break

3/14 Cassese 16A, "Collective Security and the Use of Armed Force," 335-49

- *UN Charter*, Arts 39-43
- *Uniting for Peace Resolution* (1950), GA Res 377
- *UN Security Council Resolution 661* (1990)
- *UN Security Council Resolution 678* (1990)
- *UN Security Council Resolution 687* (1991)
- *UN Security Council Resolution 794* (1992)

SECTION B: MAKING WAR MORE HUMANE

3/16 Byers, *War Law*, "Introduction," 1-11

- John R Bolton (April 5, 1999), "Clinton Meets 'International Law' in Kosovo," *Wall Street Journal* A23
- Thomas M Franck (1970), "Who Killed Article 2(4)?" *American Journal of International Law* 64: 809-10
- Louis Henkin (1971), "The Reports of the Death of Article 2(4) Are Greatly Exaggerated," *American Journal of International Law* 65: 544-45
- Jean Combacau (1986), "The Exception of Self-Defense in UN Practice," in *The Current Legal Regulation of the Use of Force*: 32
- *Nicaragua Case* (1986), ICJ
- Michael Glennon (Jan. 28, 2002), "Preempting Terrorism: The Case for Anticipatory Self-Defense," *Weekly Standard*: 24
- *Oil Platforms Case* (2003), ICJ, Judge Simma in separate opinion
- John R Crook (2005), "The 2004 Judicial Activity of the International Court of Justice," *American Journal of International Law* 99(2): 454-56
- ****Nicaragua Case* (1986), ICJ
- W Michael Reisman (1984), "Coercion and Self-Determination: Construing Charter Article 2(4)," *American Journal of International Law* 78: 643-45
- Oscar Schachter (1984), "The Legality of Pro-Democratic Invasion," *American Journal of International Law* 78: 649-50

3/18 Byers, *War Law*, "Part II: Self-Defense," 51-81

- *The Caroline Affair* (1906)
- *The 2002 National Security Strategy of the US*
- ****Oil Platforms Case* (2003), ICJ
- ****Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory* (2004), ICJ
- State Department Memo on Legal Basis for the Quarantine of Cuba (Oct. 23, 1962)
- Christopher C Joyner (1984), "Reflections on the Lawfulness of Invasion," *American Journal of International Law* 78: 131
- UN General Assembly Res. (1983)

3/21 Byers, *War Law*, “Part III: Humanitarian Intervention,” 83-111

- Lee Feinstein and Anne-Marie Slaughter (2004), “A Duty to Prevent,” *Foreign Affairs* 83: 136-49
- Nehal Bhuta (2001), “Paved with Good Intentions...’ – Humanitarian War, the New Interventionism and Legal Regulation of the Use of Force,” *Melbourne University Law Review* 25: 843

3/23 Cassese 16B, “Self-Defense and Its Many Faces,” 349-65

- Karl M Meessen (2003), “Unilateral Recourse to Military Force against Terrorist Attacks,” *Yale International Law Journal* 28: 341-50
- Roderick D Margo (1977), “The Legality of the Entebbe Raid in International Law,” *South African Law Journal* 94: 306
- *United States v Fawaz Yunis* (1991), US Court of Appeals
- Abraham D Sofaer (1989), “Terrorism, the Law, and National Defense,” *Military Law Review* 126: 90-122

3/25 Cassese 17, “Legal Restraints on Violence in Armed Conflict,” 366-403

- Martens Clause

PART IV: CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

SECTION A: HUMAN RIGHTS

3/28 Cassese 18, “The Protection of Human Rights,” 404-26

- *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*
- Louis Henkin (1987), “The International Bill of Rights: The Universal Declaration and the Covenants,” in *International Enforcement of Human Rights*: 6-9
- *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (1967), Arts. 2, 4, 40-45
- *US Reservations to Its Ratification of the ICCPR* (1992)
- *International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights* (1967), Arts. 16, 19
- Louis Henkin (1979), “International Human Rights as ‘Rights,’” *Cardozo Law Review* 1: 438

SECTION B: REFUGEE LAW AND STATELESS PERSONS

3/30 Refugee Law Basics (Readings TBA)

4/1 Foster and Lambert 1, Statelessness and Preparing for the Book

- Jonathan M Katz (Nov 12, 2018), “What Happened When a Nation Erased Birthright Citizenship,” *The Atlantic*

4/4 Foster and Lambert 2, Conventions on Refugees and Stateless Persons

4/6 Foster and Lambert 3, Nationality

4/8 Foster and Lambert 4, Stateless Persons in the Refugee Convention

4/11 Foster and Lambert 5, Statelessness Itself as Persecution

4/13 Foster and Lambert 6 and Conclusion

SECTION C: INTERNATIONAL CRIMES

4/20 Cassese 19A, "Categories of International Crimes," 427-44

- ****Ex Parte Pinochet* (1999), UK House of Lords
- *Charter of the International Military Tribunal* (1945), Arts. 6, 16
- *The Justice Case (Case No. 3)* (1951), Nuremberg Military Tribunal
- UN General Assembly Res 95 (1946)
- UN Security Council Res 955 (1994)

4/22 Cassese 19B, "Prosecution and Punishment of International Crimes," 444-53

- *Prosecutor v Tadic* (1996), ICTY
- ****Prosecutor v Jean-Paul Akayesu* (1999), ICTR
- Kofi Annan (1998), "Speech at University of Witwatersrand"
- *Rome Statute of the ICC* (1998), Arts. 6-8, 12-18, 124
- David Scheffer (1998), "Testimony before US Senate Foreign Relations Committee"

SECTION D: THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

4/25 Cassese 20A, "The Principles of International Environmental Law," 454-71

- ****The Trail Smelter Case* (1941), UN International Arbitration Awards
- *Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer* (1987), Arts. 2, 8
- *Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change* (1998), Arts. 6, 12, 17

4/27 Cassese 20B, "Responsibility and Liability for Environmental Harm," 471-89

- ****Gabcikovo-Nagymaros Project Case* (1998), ICJ
- *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons* (1996), ICJ
- *ENMOD Convention* (1977), Arts. 1-2

4/29 Summing It All Up

FINAL EXAM: MONDAY, May 2, 10:30 – 1:00

OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

I. Foundations of the International Community

A. Fundamental Principles

1. Introduction
2. The Main Legal Features of the International Community
3. The Historical Evolution of the International Community
4. The Fundamental Principles Governing International Relations

B. International Legal Subjects

1. States
2. Territory
3. Sovereignty and Its Limits
4. International Organizations
5. Individuals and Other Legal Subjects

II. Creation of International Law

A. Sources

1. Custom
2. Treaties and *Opinio Juris*
3. Other Lawmaking Processes

B. Conflicting or Complementary Hierarchies?

1. A Hierarchy of Rules
2. International Law in National Systems

C. Does Power Determine Norms?

1. Law and Power
2. Power and International Relations

D. Do Norms Constrain Power?

E. Compliance and Enforcement

1. Breaking the Law
2. Compliance with the Law
3. Enforcement of the Law

III. The Use of Force and Its Effects

A. The United Nations

1. The Role of the UN
2. Collective Security

B. Making War More Humane

1. The Prohibition on the Use of Force
2. Self-Defense
3. Humanitarian Intervention
4. Unilateral Action
5. International Humanitarian Law

IV. Contemporary Issues

A. Human Rights Protection

B. Refugee Law and Stateless Persons

1. Refugee Law Basics
2. Statelessness and Prep for the Book
3. Key International Conventions
4. Nationality
5. Stateless Persons in the Refugee Convention
6. Statelessness Itself as Persecution
7. Non-Refugee Stateless Persons

C. International Crimes

1. Categories of International Crimes
2. Preventing International Crimes Today

D. Environmental Issues

1. The Principles of Intl. Environmental Law
2. Responsibility for Environmental Harm