Purpose and Objectives of the Course
This course introduces students to the fundamental rules and principles of public international law and to how the discipline relates to international relations. Particular emphasis will be placed on international law as a tool for the peaceful settlement of international disputes. Students are encouraged to develop a critical approach to international law and to discuss cases of their own interest. Students will learn about the latest process of transformation international law is going through. Students will also become familiar with benchmark cases decided by the Permanent Court of International Justice (under the League of Nations), the International Court of Justice (under the United Nations), and domestic courts using international law.

Required Texts:


Additional Resources:
Black’s Law Dictionary
Lexis Nexis (available at Bobst library as an electronic resource)
JStor (available at Bobst library as an electronic resource)
CIAO (available at Bobst library as an electronic resource)

Grading Policy:
Class attendance is required. The final grade will be determined by a midterm exam (essay question), an open book, notebook and laptop final exam, and participation. Each exam is worth 45% of the final grade, and participation will account for the remaining 10%. Participation will be graded on the basis of attendance, quality as well as frequency of questions and comments. Absence in excess of four classes during the semester without written justification will be penalized.
Course Outline:

Week 1
Review syllabus, assignments, grading policy.


Week 2 – The Chad-Libya War over the Aouzou Strip

Goldsmith & Posner: The Limits of International Law. Chapters 1 and 2.

Background reading:
- Statute of the International Court of Justice, Art. 2, 3, and 4.
- Charter of the United Nations, especially Chapters I, V, VI, VII, and XIV.

Week 3 – The Rainbow Warrior Case


Week 4 – International Lawmaking


Week 5 – States, Governments and International Organizations

Week 6 – International Law in the Domestic Arena


Week 7 – Midterm Exam

Week 8 – Jurisdiction

Week 9 – International Human Rights


Week 10 – The Use of Force

Week 11 – International Humanitarian Law


Week 12 – International Criminal Law


Week 13 – Law of the Sea

Week 14 – Managing the World Economy


Documentary: *NAFTA Chapter 11. Directed by Bill Moyers*

**Week 15 – Final Exam**

Subject to change. Subsequent changes to this syllabus and course-related announcements and policies will be posted in Blackboard. Students are responsible for checking the Blackboard page of the course regularly. E-mail communication between the instructor and the students, when necessary, will happen through Blackboard (your nyu.edu e-mail account). Students are responsible for checking their NYU e-mail accounts for course-related messages.