



LAW 891

International Law

S1 External 2014

Dept of Law

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Unit Convenor

Roy Baker

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Contact via roy.baker@mq.edu.au

Credit points

4

Prerequisites

Admission to JD or MIntEnvLaw or PGDiplIntEnvLaw or PGCertIntEnvLaw or MIntTrdeComLaw or PGDiplIntTrdeComLaw or PGCertIntTrdeComLaw or MIntRelMIntTrdeComLaw or LLM in International Environmental Law or 42cp in LAW units at 400 or 500 level or MIntPubDip

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

International Law affords an understanding of legal principles, rules, norms, and practices. The unit analyses the contribution of these elements to the progressive development of international law. The theory is applied to contemporary international events and crises to test and evaluate its operational adequacy and effectiveness in keeping pace with the changing nature and shared expectation of the international community. The unit examines the ongoing transformation of the structure of international law in terms of its expanding frontiers, new actors, and reorientation to appreciate its continuing dynamism and relevance in the twenty-first century.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Articulate and critique the general characteristics and principles of public international law.

Identify and find key primary sources of international law.

Explain and critique how treaties are formed and enforced, the nature of reservations and basic rules of treaty interpretation.

Analyse and critique the relationship between international and national law, particularly Australian law.

Explain and critique state sovereignty, state recognition and legal personality in international law.

Analyse and critique the extent to which a state can be held to account for the actions of its officers, citizens and corporations, as well as states' obligations towards foreign nationals.

Articulate and critique basic principles of state jurisdiction, as well as sovereign, diplomatic and consular immunity.

Explain and critique how a state's territory is defined, including its territorial waters, and how international law deals with the acquisition or loss of territory.

Analyse and critique the right of states to use armed force, the UN system of collective security and non-violent means of settling disputes between states.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Online activities	0%	Various
Weekly Assessable Quizzes	24%	Various
Mid-Semester Assignment	36%	11 pm, 4 May 2014
Final Examination	40%	11 pm, 15 June 2014

Online activities

Due: **Various**

Weighting: **0%**

See Unit Notes (available from iLearn) for details.

On successful completion you will be able to:

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Weekly Assessable Quizzes

Due: **Various**

Weighting: **24%**

See Unit Notes (available from iLearn) for details.

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Mid-Semester Assignment

Due: **11 pm, 4 May 2014**

Weighting: **36%**

See Unit Notes (available from iLearn) for details.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Articulate and critique the general characteristics and principles of public international law.
- Identify and find key primary sources of international law.
- Explain and critique how treaties are formed and enforced, the nature of reservations and basic rules of treaty interpretation.
- Analyse and critique the relationship between international and national law, particularly Australian law.
- Explain and critique state sovereignty, state recognition and legal personality in international law.
- Analyse and critique the extent to which a state can be held to account for the actions of its officers, citizens and corporations, as well as states' obligations towards foreign nationals.

Final Examination

Due: **11 pm, 15 June 2014**

Weighting: **40%**

See Unit Notes (available from iLearn) for details.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Articulate and critique the general characteristics and principles of public international law.
- Identify and find key primary sources of international law.
- Explain and critique how treaties are formed and enforced, the nature of reservations and basic rules of treaty interpretation.
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Delivery and Resources

This unit is delivered via iLearn, weekly tutorials for internal students and a compulsory two-day On-Campus Session (with a recommended additional one-day On-Campus Session) for external students. Lectures are available from iLearn. There are no 'live' lectures.

Unit Schedule

See Unit Schedule (available from iLearn) and iLearn for readings, dates of tutorials and deadlines for quizzes and other online activities.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](#). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html>

Grading Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html>

Grade Appeal Policy <http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html>

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the [Learning and Teaching Category](#) of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit <http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/>.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Articulate and critique the general characteristics and principles of public international law.

- Explain and critique how treaties are formed and enforced, the nature of reservations and basic rules of treaty interpretation.
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- Analyse and critique the right of states to use armed force, the UN system of collective security and non-violent means of settling disputes between states.

Assessment tasks

- Online activities
- Weekly Assessable Quizzes
- Mid-Semester Assignment
- Final Examination

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Articulate and critique the general characteristics and principles of public international law.
- Explain and critique how treaties are formed and enforced, the nature of reservations and basic rules of treaty interpretation.
- Analyse and critique the relationship between international and national law, particularly Australian law.
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Assessment tasks

- Weekly Assessable Quizzes
- Mid-Semester Assignment
- Final Examination

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Articulate and critique the general characteristics and principles of public international law.
- Explain and critique how treaties are formed and enforced, the nature of reservations and basic rules of treaty interpretation.
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Assessment tasks

- Online activities
- Weekly Assessable Quizzes
- Mid-Semester Assignment
- Final Examination

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

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PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

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Assessment task

- Final Examination

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Assessment tasks

- Mid-Semester Assignment
- Final Examination

Changes since First Published

Date	Description
29/01/2014	The Prerequisites was updated.
16/01/2014	The Prerequisites was updated.