



POIR8570

International Law and Global Governance

Session 1, Fully online/virtual 2020

Department of Modern History, Politics & International Relations

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Convenor

Dr Lavina Lee

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Contact via by email

Faculty of Arts Level 2, The Australian Hearing Hub, 16 University Avenue, Macquarie University

TBC on ilearn

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MIntRel or PGDipIntRel or GradDipIntRel or MIntCommMIntRel or MIntBusMIntRel or MIntRelMIntTrdeComLaw or MTransInterMIntRel or MIntPubDip or GradCertIntRel or MPlan or MPPPMIntRel

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit examines why international law and global governance institutions have increasingly become instruments of choice for states as they attempt to solve common problems and express common values. Difficult questions will be addressed, including: is international law really law? Can the use of force between states really be constrained by either law or institutions? Can an impartial international court exist in the absence of a world government? Can states collectively agree on rules that accommodate divergent interests in areas such as climate change, world trade and international crime? Are powerful states above the law? To answer these questions, we first explore the sources of international law, the nature of international law and institutions, the historical and political context in which they have developed, and the role of law and global governance institutions in core theories of international relations. We then look at substantive issue areas including the use of force and the UN collective security system; terrorism; international crimes; international trade; and international environmental institutions. Finally, we examine the impact of unequal power relations on international law and global governance institutions as well as the problem of legitimacy.

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:

ULO1: Reflect upon and analyse the ethical, political and cultural context which informs and influences the operation of international law and institutions.

ULO2: Understand and critically evaluate the theoretical approaches to international law and international relations within the IR discipline and to reflect upon the role of power on the formation and effective operation of international law.

ULO3: Formulate and defend policy recommendations on important issues regarding international law and institutions.

ULO4: Apply skills required to conduct independent research and analysis.

ULO5: Understand fundamental rules and concepts on: the nature and sources of international law; international law with respect to the use of force, terrorism, war, international crimes, the sea, international trade and the environment; the historical development of international law; and the specific core charters, functions, decision-making and dispute settlement procedures and processes of international organisations with responsibility for collective security, world trade, the environment, and the prosecution of international crimes.

ULO6: Communicate effectively in both written work and oral presentations. This involves being able to identify and organise relevant information and to formulate persuasive, coherent and critical arguments.

Assessment Tasks

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Assessment details are no longer provided here as a result of changes due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Students should consult [iLearn](#) for revised unit information.

[Find out more about the Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and potential impacts on staff and students](#)

General Assessment Information

Essays will be FAILED for the following reasons

1. **Plagiarism** – for example, where sentences or paragraphs are taken word-for-word or nearly word-for-word from another source and presented as original expression. See the University's Academic Honesty Policy (link below) for an in-depth explanation of what constitutes

plagiarism. Plagiarism is taken very seriously by the Convenor and the Department generally and will result in a range of penalties, including a zero grade for an assessment task. Serious instances of plagiarism will be reported to the Faculty Discipline Committee.

2. **Excessive use of direct quotes** may result in a fail grade. As a general rule, no more than 10% of your overall word length should appear in direct quotes. You must try to express your ideas and arguments in your own words as much as possible. This demonstrates true understanding.

3. Identical or nearly **identical essays** will all fail – regardless of the original authorship.

4. Work that is significantly below the required **word length**.

5. Essays written with **poor English grammar and expression** may be failed if the marker is unable to understand the argument(s) raised.

6. Work that has been previously submitted and assessed in other units that is then re-submitted for assessment in POIR8570, in whole or part, will receive a fail grade. This is defined as '**self-plagiarism**' under the Academic Honesty Policy.

Examination

The only exception to sitting an examination at the designated time (above) is where a student has experienced 'unexpected, unavoidable and serious circumstances' that prevented them from taking the exam, which can be documented. In these circumstances, the student should consider applying for 'Special Consideration'. Consult the Special Consideration Policy (below) for further information about what criteria must be met.

If a Supplementary Examination is granted as a result of the Special Consideration process, the examination will be scheduled after the conclusion of the official examination period.

You are advised that it is Macquarie University policy not to set early examinations for individuals or groups of students. All students are expected to ensure that they are available until the end of the teaching semester, that is the final day of the official examination period.

Extensions

Any student seeking an extension of time to submit their research essay must apply formally for 'special consideration' using the ask.mq.edu.au system. Applications should be made before the due date for the assignment.

Whilst we do understand that many or most students support themselves through paid employment, extensions cannot be granted on this basis alone. Students must manage their time and workloads accordingly. Essay topics will be made available early in the semester leaving sufficient time for essay preparation. Meeting deadlines for assignments is treated very seriously in this course. **Accordingly, the penalties for late submission are high.**

Penalties for Late Submission

Unless a Special Consideration request has been submitted and approved:

(a) a penalty for lateness will apply - two (2) marks out of 100 will be deducted per day for assignments submitted after the due date;

(b) no assignment will be accepted more than seven (7) days (including weekends) after the original submission deadline;

(c) No late submissions will be accepted for timed assessments - e.g. quizzes, online tests.

Assignment Submission

Hard copy submission of assignments will not be required for this course. All assignments are to be submitted online using the ilearn website for this unit. A Turnitin link for submission for the research essay and quiz will be set up there. Comments and grades will also be available online.

Turn-it-in

All written work in this course is required to be uploaded using the Turnitin link provided on the ilearn website for this unit. Turnitin is a type of anti-plagiarism software used by the university. Work that is not uploaded using the Turnitin link on ilearn will not be graded and will receive a mark of zero.

Re-submission of assessment tasks

Re-submission of assessment tasks is not possible in this unit. Please consult with your tutor before handing in any assessment task if you have any questions. Also, see the section below titled 'student support' for details about workshops on research skills, essay writing, and plagiarism available to all students in the first weeks of the semester.

Delivery and Resources

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

Any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19.

Please check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Required Reading

We will be using the following **textbook**: David Armstrong, Theo Farrell and Helene Lambert, *International Law and International Relations* (Cambridge UK: Cambridge University Press 2012).

Second-hand copies of this textbook are likely to be available. Please ensure that you buy the 2012 edition.

In addition from week to week additional journal articles, news articles etc will be set as required reading and posted on ilearn.

Technologies Used

This unit has an online presence in ilearn. Students will require reliable internet access and a computer.

Unit Schedule

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

The unit schedule/topics and any references to on-campus delivery below may no longer be relevant due to COVID-19. Please consult [iLearn](#) for latest details, and check here for updated delivery information: https://ask.mq.edu.au/account/pub/display/unit_status

Week 1

Introduction to the course; Evolution of International Law

27 February – First Lecture and Tutorials

See ilearn materials

Week 2

The Nature of International Law; Sources of International Law

5 March

Week 3

Sources of International Law; Theoretical Approaches Part 1

12 March

Week 4

Theoretical Approaches Part 2

19 March

Week 5

The Use of Force

26 March

Mid-Semester Test - Paper released Thursday 26 March 7.30 pm

Week 6

Terrorism

2 April

Week 7

International Humanitarian Law

9 April

MID SEMESTER BREAK

Monday 13 April to Friday 24 April 2019

Week 8

International Crimes and the ICC

30 April

Week 9

Research Essay due Thursday 7 May at 5 pm

No Lectures or Classes

Week 10

International Trade and the WTO

14 May

Week 11

The Environment

21 May

Week 12

The Law of the Sea and Great Power Politics

28 May

Week 13

Study Week

No Lecture or Tutorials

Final Examination – One-day online paper

The exam paper will be released on ilearn at **9.00 am on Sunday 7 June 2019** and is due for submission on **Monday 8 June 2019 at 9.00 am**

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from **Policy Central** (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)

- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/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/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

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 help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Getting help with your assignment](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

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

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

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