Syllabus
Legal Aspects of International Business

Course: Legal Aspects of International Business
Term: Spring Term 2014
Instructor: Steve Wang

Texts: “Global Business Regulation” (2000) by Braithwaite and Drahos,
Cambridge University Press. ISBN0521784999

* Spring Term class dates are March 22nd, April 5th and 19th, and May 3rd.

Course Summary

Description: This course provides an introduction to the legal regulation of businesses in the global context. It will provide students with an opportunity for more in-depth analysis of how economic, political and competitive issues impact on the law and legal institutions. The course is an essential introduction for providing a strong basis from which students will be able to grasp the subject as well as specific aspects of Global Business Regulation.

Assessment: In Class Participation 20%, Presentation 30% Research Paper 50%

Summary Description of Assessment Items

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment tools</th>
<th>Description of Item</th>
<th>% Weighting</th>
<th>Week Due</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Participation, Presentation</td>
<td>In-class Participation, Co-lecture Presentation</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Mar. 22 to May 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper</td>
<td>Research Essay</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>May 10</td>
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Course Aims

The course aims to:

1. Develop an understanding of the legal framework of global business
2. Develop an understanding of how the legal, political and economic aspects of global business impact each other and the international competitive environment
3. Develop students knowledge of the global regulatory bodies relevant to business
4. Develop the ability to enable students to think critically and identify legal problems arising out of global business transactions
5. Develop students' ability to critically analyze existing law and legal developments relating to the global business environment.
6. Develop students' ability to differentiate between the different types of legal entities and liabilities that operate at an international level
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5. Resolution of international disputes: methods of resolution. Dispute resolution within the WTO. International litigation and alternative dispute resolution.

Learning and Teaching

The course will be delivered using a mix of lectures and seminars. The instructor will lead each class with lectures on basic legal principles. In addition, each individual student is required to prepare and participate as a co-instructor by becoming a subject expert (using a chapter chosen from the Braithwaite and Drahos textbook) to present during an assigned class.

The class discussion format will involve identification of current legal issues on the subject lead by the instructor. The presentation by each student will involve a pre-reading of the chapter topic and preparation of a 30 minute Power Point as a “guest lecturer”. The topics and presentation order will be assigned during the first class meeting.

The teaching and assessment strategy will allow for the delivery of the learning outcomes outlined below.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this course students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the legal principles relating to the global business environment
2. Analyze legal issues in the context of global business
3. Demonstrate an awareness of topical legal issues relative to the global business environment.
4. Research and interpret materials relating to this area of law
5. Think critically with regard to legal problems within the field of global business.
6. Understand the nature of legal liabilities, public and private in the global context
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Grade Assessment

The course is assessed by means of an in-class presentation (a presentation by each individual student) worth 30% of the overall grade, and a research paper worth 50% of the overall grade. The presentation will assess students’ understanding of legal issues and principles. The research paper will consist of an individual essay on the topic below. During the first class meeting the paper requirement will be discussed in depth. Both pieces of coursework will assess all the learning outcomes for the course. In addition, in class exercises will be conducted throughout the term, and this participation accounts for 20% of the overall grade.

Assessment Criteria: Relevant and adequate research using a variety of sources, with clear and concise explanation of the legal issues with reference to the relevant sources of law:

- Appropriate structure and presentation.
- Critical analysis of issues raised.
- Ability to reach conclusions supported by findings and analysis.
- Appropriate referencing and bibliography.

Essay Topic

- “Internet Freedom as it relates to Global Communications” - After gaining an understanding of the subject matter, do additional research and write a ~3,500 words (10-12 pages) essay to analyze the problem at hand related to global internet freedom and control. Look at the problem from a global commercial perspective but use the same format of your in class presentation in terms of discussing whether there is Contest of Actors, Contest of Principles, Forum Shifting and Modeling, etc.

**Class topics may be adjusted based on class progress**