



UNSW Course Outline

LAWS8085 International Organisations - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : LAWS8085

Year : 2024

Term : Term 2

Teaching Period : T2

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Law and Justice

Academic Unit : School of Global and Public Law

Delivery Mode : In Person

Delivery Format : Standard

Delivery Location : Kensington

Campus : Sydney

Study Level : Postgraduate

Units of Credit : 6

[Useful Links](#)

[Handbook Class Timetable](#)

Course Details & Outcomes

Course Description

This course will examine the principal issues concerning organisations composed of states. These include the legal status and powers of organisations, membership and participation, norm-creation, dispute settlement, enforcement of decisions, peace

and security activities, and the organisations' privileges and immunities. It will also address such contemporary problems as the creation of an international criminal court, the "succession" of Russia to the USSR's seat on the UN Security Council, the response to the break-up of Yugoslavia, the new strategic concept of NATO, the jurisdictional issues in the Lockerbie-case, peacekeeping after an "Agenda for Peace", the success of the WTO dispute settlement, and the question of responsibility of international organisations. Primary consideration will be given to the development of the United Nations. Other universal and regional organisations will also be dealt with.

Main Topics

- Basic concepts of the law of international organisations
- Participation in and internal structures of international organisations
- Rule-making by international organisations
- Dispute settlement through international organisations
- Enforcement of decisions by international organisations
- Peace and security activities
- Peacekeeping and UN administration of territory
- International organisations and national legal systems - accountability issues

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : have a sound understanding of the historical origins, development, scope, principles, and main rules of the modern law of international organisations (PLO 1a, 1b, 2b)
CLO2 : comprehend and evaluate the importance of the law of international organisations to international relations (PLO 1a)
CLO3 : be able to communicate effectively, in speaking and in writing, on core issues of the law and operation of international organisations, including their role and impact on international and domestic law and politics (PLOs 3a & 3b)
CLO4 : understand the process by which principles and rules of international organisations continue to develop and understand the role governments and various actors play in the implementation and enforcement of international norms and standards set by international organisations (PLO 1a)
CLO5 : be able to evaluate the impact of the rules and principles of international organisations on the conduct of governments and other actors in the international and domestic arena (PLOs 1a & 1b)
CLO6 : engage in independent, enquiry-based learning with a high degree of personal autonomy, in particular by preparing a substantial independent research essay on a specific topic related to international organisations (PLO 2b)

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : have a sound understanding of the historical origins, development, scope, principles, and main rules of the modern law of international organisations (PLO 1a, 1b, 2b)	• Class Participation
CLO2 : comprehend and evaluate the importance of the law of international organisations to international relations (PLO 1a)	• Class Participation
CLO3 : be able to communicate effectively, in speaking and in writing, on core issues of the law and operation of international organisations, including their role and impact on international and domestic law and politics (PLOs 3a & 3b)	• Class Participation
CLO4 : understand the process by which principles and rules of international organisations continue to develop and understand the role governments and various actors play in the implementation and enforcement of international norms and standards set by international organisations (PLO 1a)	• Class Participation
CLO5 : be able to evaluate the impact of the rules and principles of international organisations on the conduct of governments and other actors in the international and domestic arena (PLOs 1a & 1b)	• Research Essay (5000-6000 words) • Class Participation
CLO6 : engage in independent, enquiry-based learning with a high degree of personal autonomy, in particular by preparing a substantial independent research essay on a specific topic related to international organisations (PLO 2b)	• Research Essay (5000-6000 words) • Class Participation

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Class Participation Assessment Format: Individual	20%	Start Date: Not Applicable Due Date: Not Applicable
Research Essay (5000-6000 words) Assessment Format: Individual	80%	Due Date: 05/08/2024 09:00 AM

Assessment Details

Class Participation

Assessment Overview

Feedback includes formative feedback, peer feedback in class, online and the use of rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO1 : have a sound understanding of the historical origins, development, scope, principles, and main rules of the modern law of international organisations (PLO 1a, 1b, 2b)
- CLO2 : comprehend and evaluate the importance of the law of international organisations to international relations (PLO 1a)
- CLO3 : be able to communicate effectively, in speaking and in writing, on core issues of the law and operation of international organisations, including their role and impact on international and domestic law and politics (PLOs 3a & 3b)
- CLO4 : understand the process by which principles and rules of international organisations continue to develop and understand the role governments and various actors play in the implementation and enforcement of international norms and standards set by international organisations (PLO 1a)
- CLO5 : be able to evaluate the impact of the rules and principles of international organisations on the conduct of governments and other actors in the international and domestic arena (PLOs 1a & 1b)
- CLO6 : engage in independent, enquiry-based learning with a high degree of personal autonomy, in particular by preparing a substantial independent research essay on a specific topic related to international organisations (PLO 2b)

Detailed Assessment Description

Class participation is assessed on an ongoing basis in each class session, and completion of asynchronous modules is essential.

Assessment information

See the course Moodle page for more details and the relevant marking rubric.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

Not Applicable

Research Essay (5000-6000 words)

Assessment Overview

Feedback includes formative feedback, peer feedback in class, online and the use of rubric.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO5 : be able to evaluate the impact of the rules and principles of international

- organisations on the conduct of governments and other actors in the international and domestic arena (PLOs 1a & 1b)
- CLO6 : engage in independent, enquiry-based learning with a high degree of personal autonomy, in particular by preparing a substantial independent research essay on a specific topic related to international organisations (PLO 2b)

Detailed Assessment Description

When completed, your research essay should demonstrate the extent to which you have engaged with the course materials in developing an original research idea, and then conducted your own research to make your arguments in the essay itself.

See the course Moodle page for more details and the relevant marking rubric.

Assessment Length

6,000 words

Assessment information

Topic to be agreed by email with lecturer by **Monday 15 July 2024**.

See the Research Essay Assignment Instructions on the course Moodle page for more information about the essay topic and the assignment more generally.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students can see Turnitin similarity reports.

General Assessment Information

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 1 : 27 May - 2 June	Online Activity	Session 1 Asynchronous (approximately 2 hours) via Moodle: Introduction, history of IOs, & global governance Materials to be completed and responses to related questions posted to the discussion forum prior to class on Tuesday 4 June 2024
Week 2 : 3 June - 9 June	Seminar	Session 2 - Tuesday 4 June 2024 (3 hours) Topics: Definition, roles, & functions
Week 3 : 10 June - 16 June	Seminar	Session 3 - Tuesday 11 June 2024 (3 hours) Topic: Legal personality
Week 4 : 17 June - 23 June	Online Activity	Session 4 Asynchronous (approximately 2 hours) via Moodle: Membership, representation, & legitimacy Materials to be completed and responses to related questions posted to the discussion forum prior to class on Tuesday 18 June 2024
	Seminar	Session 5 - Tuesday 18 June 2024 (3 hours) Topics: Powers, decisions, judicial review
Week 5 : 24 June - 30 June	Seminar	Session 6 - Tuesday 25 June 2024 (3 hours) Topics: Privileges & immunities
Week 7 : 8 July - 14 July	Online Activity	Session 7 Asynchronous (approximately 2 hours) via Moodle: Conduct & misconduct Materials to be completed and responses to related questions posted to the discussion forum prior to class on Tuesday 16 July 2024
Week 8 : 15 July - 21 July	Seminar	Session 8 - Tuesday 16 July 2024 (3 hours) Topics: Responsibility & accountability
Week 9 : 22 July - 28 July	Seminar	Session 9 - Tuesday 23 July 2024 (3 hours) Topics: International health governance; Concluding discussions

Attendance Requirements

Please see information about attendance requirements in **Law & Justice Assessment Procedure and Student Information** located in the Other Useful Information tab in the Academic Information field.

Please be advised there will be no classes on public holidays, but there are no relevant holidays in this term.

General Schedule Information

The course has 9 sessions - 3 asynchronous modules and 6 in class seminars. Completion of all sessions is essential to successful engagement with the course, and Class Participation is assessed for every session.

Further, timely completion of the asynchronous sessions will allow students to be prepared for the remainder of the course and continue working towards their research essay.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

Each class has *Required Readings*, which are available via the Leganto list on the Moodle page.

There is no assigned text for this course.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
	Carolyn Evans				Contact by email please	Yes	Yes
	Natalie Klein					No	No

Other Useful Information

Academic Information

Upon your enrolment at UNSW, you share responsibility with us for maintaining a safe, harmonious and tolerant University environment.

You are required to:

- Comply with the University's conditions of enrolment.
- Act responsibly, ethically, safely and with integrity.
- Observe standards of equity and respect in dealing with every member of the UNSW community.
- Engage in lawful behaviour.
- Use and care for University resources in a responsible and appropriate manner.
- Maintain the University's reputation and good standing.

For more information, visit the [UNSW Student Code of Conduct Website](#).

UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy

It is essential that all students undertaking this course read and abide by the [UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#). This document includes information on Class Attendance, Late Work, Word Limits, Marking, Special Consideration, Workload, and Academic Misconduct & Plagiarism. More information can also be found at [Assessment & Exam Information](#).

Information regarding Course Outlines are subject to change and students are advised to check updates. If there is a discrepancy between the information posted here and the handbook or the UNSW Law & Justice website, please contact [Student Services via The Nucleus Hub](#) for advice. UNSW Law & Justice reserves the right to discontinue or vary such courses or staff allocations at any time. If your course is not here, please visit [Handbook](#) for information.

Academic Honesty and Plagiarism

As a student at UNSW you are expected to display [academic integrity](#) in your work and interactions. Where a student breaches the [UNSW Student Code](#) with respect to academic integrity, the University may take disciplinary action under the Student Misconduct Procedure. To assure academic integrity, you may be required to demonstrate reasoning, research and the process of constructing work submitted for assessment.

To assist you in understanding what academic integrity means, and how to ensure that you do comply with the UNSW Student Code, it is strongly recommended that you complete the [Working with Academic Integrity](#) module before submitting your first assessment task. It is a free, online self-paced Moodle module that should take about one hour to complete.

Submission of Assessment Tasks

Before submitting assessment items all students must read and abide by the [UNSW Law & Justice Assessment Policy & Student Information](#).

Special consideration

Special consideration is primarily intended to provide you with an extra opportunity to demonstrate the level of performance of which you are capable. To apply, and for further information, see Special Consideration on the UNSW [Current Students](#) page.

Feedback

UNSW Law & Justice appreciates the need for students to have feedback on their progress prior to the last date for withdrawal without failure. All courses will therefore provide feedback to students prior to this date, as well as throughout the course. However, students should note that feedback does not take the form only of formal grades and written comments on written assessments. Rather, formative feedback, which helps students to self-assess, to identify misunderstandings, and to identify areas requiring further work, will occur during class and

possibly online. For example, where a teacher asks the class a question, all students should think about how they might answer. Even though not all students will necessarily be able to respond orally, everyone can reflect on their tentative answer in light of the teacher's response and subsequent class discussion. If you are struggling to understand what is being asked in class, or if your tentative answers prove incorrect and subsequent discussion does not clear things up, then you should continue to ask questions (of yourself, your peers or your teacher). Similarly, you can get a sense of your ability in a course through peer feedback during group work, your teacher's responses to your in-class contributions, and your own response to in-class problems and examples (whether or not you are called on to relay your answer to the class) and also your online activities and responses by others to those activities. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the specific feedback used in this course.

Faculty-specific Information

Additional support for students

- Student support: <https://www.student.unsw.edu.au/support>
- Academic Skills and Support: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/academic-skills>
- Student Wellbeing, Health and Safety: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing>
- Equitable Learning Services: <https://student.unsw.edu.au/els>
- UNSW IT Service Centre: <https://www.myit.unsw.edu.au>

Course improvement

Student feedback is very important to continual course improvement. This is demonstrated within the Faculty of Law & Justice by the implementation of the UNSW online student survey myExperience, which allows students to evaluate their learning experiences in an anonymous way. myExperience survey reports are produced from each survey. They are released to staff after all student assessment results are finalised and released to students. Course convenors will use the feedback to make ongoing improvements to the course. Students enrolled in this course may check their Moodle course page for details on the actions taken in response to evaluation feedback in Student Survey.

School Contact Information

Please contact [Nucleus Student Hub](#) for all enquiries. The Nucleus acts as a central communications hub for UNSW and will distribute your enquiry to the best person to respond.