



UNSW Course Outline

LAWS8989 World Trade Law: Contemporary Issues and Concerns - 2024

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General Course Information

Course Code : LAWS8989

Year : 2024

Term : Term 3

Teaching Period : T3B

Is a multi-term course? : No

Faculty : Faculty of Law and Justice

Academic Unit : School of Private and Commercial 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

International trade is increasingly becoming more important to practitioners (as evidenced by

free trade agreements negotiated by Australia and other states), non-governmental organisations, and the general public. This course provides students with an opportunity to study select issues of international trade law in much more detail than can be covered in the introductory international trade law course. Increasingly, issues of contemporary legal significance are being decided by international trade law. They not only have effect on the international trading system, but also affect civil society more broadly. Examples include environment, labour, competition, and data flow. The course is useful for students who work, or want to work, for law firms, regulatory agencies, industry, and other entities related to trade law or who wish to understand the forces shaping the global and cross-border trade.

Main Topics

Trade in goods

Trade in services

Trade in intellectual property

Trade and investment

Dispute settlement

Free trade agreements

New issues

Course Aims

- Refine and sharpen understanding of the history and evolution of the WTO
- Deepen knowledge and understanding of the WTO agreements, including trade in goods, services, trade and intellectual property protection
- Understand and evaluate the dispute settlement system as a whole as well as individual disputes
- Understand the interconnectedness between trade policy and other areas, such as environmental, health and safety concerns, and labour

Course Learning Outcomes

Course Learning Outcomes
CLO1 : Demonstrate effective oral communication and collaboration through class discussion of complex legal, theoretical and/or professionally relevant subject matter in a scholarly and insightful manner (PLOs 1a, 3a & 3b)
CLO2 : Engage in complex critical discussions of how the principles of international trade law operate within the international economic legal order (PLOs 1a, 2a, 3a & 3b)
CLO3 : Examine and engage in advanced critical analysis of the essential elements of international trade law and the development of the international trade regimes and associated policy issues through an extended research essay (PLOs 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3a & 4)

Course Learning Outcomes	Assessment Item
CLO1 : Demonstrate effective oral communication and collaboration through class discussion of complex legal, theoretical and/or professionally relevant subject matter in a scholarly and insightful manner (PLOs 1a, 3a & 3b)	• Class participation
CLO2 : Engage in complex critical discussions of how the principles of international trade law operate within the international economic legal order (PLOs 1a, 2a, 3a & 3b)	• Research Essay Plan • Research Essay
CLO3 : Examine and engage in advanced critical analysis of the essential elements of international trade law and the development of the international trade regimes and associated policy issues through an extended research essay (PLOs 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3a & 4)	• Research Essay

Learning and Teaching Technologies

Moodle - Learning Management System

Assessments

Assessment Structure

Assessment Item	Weight	Relevant Dates
Class participation Assessment Format: Individual	30%	
Research Essay Plan Assessment Format: Individual	10%	
Research Essay Assessment Format: Individual	60%	

Assessment Details

Class participation

Assessment Overview

This assessment requires you to prepare for and actively engage in class-based and online activities.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL01 : Demonstrate effective oral communication and collaboration through class discussion of complex legal, theoretical and/or professionally relevant subject matter in a scholarly and insightful manner (PLOs 1a, 3a & 3b)

Detailed Assessment Description

In this course, class participation will be assessed based on your performance in classes such as class discussions, exercises, presentation and case studies.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This is not a Turnitin assignment

Generative AI Permission Level

Not Applicable

Generative AI is not considered to be of assistance to you in completing this assessment. If you do use generative AI in completing this assessment, you should attribute its use.

For more information on Generative AI and permitted use please see [here](#).

Research Essay Plan

Assessment Overview

This assessment requires you to write a plan for a research essay.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CL02 : Engage in complex critical discussions of how the principles of international trade law operate within the international economic legal order (PLOs 1a, 2a, 3a & 3b)

Detailed Assessment Description

Essay outline is a mid-term assessment used primarily to help students to start working on the final research essay. The essay outline should include the following elements: (1) the chosen topic for the research essay; (2) a brief description of the structure and each section of the essay; and (3) a short bibliography listing 5-10 references.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Generative AI Permission Level

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

If your Convenor has concerns that your submission contains passages of AI-generated text or media, you may be asked to account for your work. If you are unable to satisfactorily demonstrate your understanding of your submission you may be referred to UNSW Conduct & Integrity Office for investigation for academic misconduct and possible penalties.

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Research Essay

Assessment Overview

This assessment requires you to write a research essay.

Course Learning Outcomes

- CLO2 : Engage in complex critical discussions of how the principles of international trade law operate within the international economic legal order (PLOs 1a, 2a, 3a & 3b)
- CLO3 : Examine and engage in advanced critical analysis of the essential elements of international trade law and the development of the international trade regimes and associated policy issues through an extended research essay (PLOs 1a, 1b, 2a, 2b, 3a & 4)

Detailed Assessment Description

Students are required to submit a 5000 word research essay on a topic chosen from a list of topics to be distributed in the first class.

Assignment submission Turnitin type

This assignment is submitted through Turnitin and students do not see Turnitin similarity reports.

Generative AI Permission Level

Simple Editing Assistance

In completing this assessment, you are permitted to use standard editing and referencing functions in the software you use to complete your assessment. These functions are described below. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text or other media, whether based on your own work or not.

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General Assessment Information

For further information on generative AI use in the Faculty of Law & Justice, please review the section titled 'Academic Honesty and Plagiarism' under the 'Other Useful Information' tab.

Grading Basis

Standard

Course Schedule

Teaching Week/Module	Activity Type	Content
Week 2 : 21 October - 27 October	Topic	Part I: Introduction to the Course Multilateral Trading System GATT and the WTO Part II: Trade Rules and Principles Dispute Settlement
Week 3 : 28 October - 3 November	Topic	Part I: Trade vs. Non-Trade Values Trade Liberalization vs. Domestic Autonomy Re-globalization, Sustainability and Beyond Part II: Unfair Trade Non-market Economies Industrial Policy & Subsidies Overcapacity
Week 4 : 4 November - 10 November	Topic	Part I: National Security Geopolitics Global Supply Chains Part II: Digital Trade Data Regulation International Cooperation Part III: Revision

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. If your class falls on a public holiday, alternative arrangements will be made by the course convenor to make up the missed class.

General Schedule Information

This course will be offered on an intensive basis between 10am - 5pm on Tuesdays from Weeks 7-9 of Term 3, 2024.

Course Resources

Prescribed Resources

A detailed course outline will be made available on Moodle, including information on course schedule, resources, etc.

Staff Details

Position	Name	Email	Location	Phone	Availability	Equitable Learning Services Contact	Primary Contact
Convenor	Weihuan Zhou		Law Building			Yes	Yes

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.

Generative AI

Using generative AI to conduct research or to organise your argument is not prohibited but is not encouraged. We note that the output from generative AI tools is often incorrect and almost always more superficial than is required to achieve a passing grade. Moreover, any substantive errors in the assessment, such as inappropriate references or incorrect statements, will be

regarded negatively by the marker, just as they would if not generated by AI. You should limit your use of AI to simple editorial assistance, such as standard editing and referencing functions in word processing software in the creation of your submission. You must not use any functions that generate or paraphrase passages of text, whether based on your own work or not. If your marker or Turnitin identify the use of generative AI in the text of your assessment submission, including the use of paraphrasing software, your assessment may be referred to the Student Integrity team for investigation. Please go to the link for further information about [referencing and acknowledging the use of artificial intelligence tools](#).

Prohibition on use of translation apps

With limited exceptions for language study, the course of study and assessment in Australian universities must be in English (Higher Education Standard Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021 1.5 6(c)).

In Law & Justice many classes have assessable class participation. This must be in English. **Use of a translation device to assist with contributions to class discussion is not allowed.** Similar prohibitions apply to use of any other generative text app that is not specifically permitted by the class teacher. However, use of translation software to assist a student to understand material outside of class, or to assist with preparation for assessment is generally permitted.

Further considerations apply to LLB and JD students. International lawyers who seek to be admitted in NSW must satisfy an English proficiency test. That test is expressed as equivalent to IELTS scores of 7.0 -8.0 across the tests. It is assumed that UNSW graduates are at or above those levels of English proficiency. Use of translation apps can impede the attainment of that level of proficiency. Students should avoid behaviours that put them at risk of breach of legal requirements which can have significant consequences, including potential consequences for your admission as a lawyer.

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.