



INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS LAW - BLAW 428

Professor Kurt M. Saunders

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OFFICE HOURS: Monday & Wednesday, 12:30 - 2:00 pm; and by appointment.

Course Description

This course is a study of the legal aspects of international business transactions, including an introduction to public international law; an analysis of international sales contracts; international trade regulation; technology transfer and protection of intellectual property rights; and issues relating to foreign direct investment. *Prerequisites:* BLAW 280; BUS 302, 302L for BSBA majors; passing score on the Upper-Division writing Proficiency Exam (WPE).

Course Objectives

You will gain an understanding of the various legal rules that apply to decision-making in the business environment, and to use these rules to manage legal risk and make ethical decisions. You will develop your analytical, argumentation, and writing skills by reading and briefing court decisions, identifying legal issues and legally relevant facts, using rules and facts to support an argument, and applying rules through oral discussion of cases and hypothetical problems in class and through written analysis on examinations.

Required Texts

The required texts for this course are Richard Schaffer et al., *International Business Law and its Environment* (7th ed. 2009) ("Text") and Saunders, *International Business Law: Case Supplement* ("Supp"). The textbook is available in hardcopy at the campus bookstore and elsewhere. The assigned chapters are also available at a discount online at: http://www.csun.edu/blaw/PDFs/428_fall08textbook.pdf

Class Attendance and Participation

I will use lecture along with the Socratic and problem methods of instruction. Class discussion will focus on case and problem analysis. You must attend class on a *regular* and *punctual* basis and may miss only a small number of classes for good cause or circumstances beyond your control. You are required to have completed the assigned readings and problems in advance of class and to participate in class. You are also responsible for knowing and following the Academic Dishonesty Policy, available in the university catalog and online.

Method of Assessment

Plus and minus grading will be applied. Examinations are closed-book and will include both essay and multiple choice questions. There are *no extra credit assignments*. Except in emergency or unforeseeable circumstances that you can document, there will be *no make-up examinations*. If you know *in advance* that you will be absent on the day of an exam and can present a valid excuse, you *may* be able to arrange with me to take the exam *in advance* of the rest of the class. Your final grade will be computed based on the total number of points you accumulate during the semester on the following:

Examination I	30 points
Examination II	30 points
Examination III	30 points
Class Participation	10 points

There are *no extra credit* assignments. You are also responsible for knowing and following the Academic Dishonesty Policy, available in the university catalog and online. Collaboration on examinations is prohibited. Instances of academic dishonesty will be immediately reported and will result in a grade of “F” for the course.

Schedule and Reading Assignments

WEEK	TOPIC	READING	CASES
INTERNATIONAL LAW AND PROCEDURE			
1	Public International Law and Organizations	TEXT 47-54, 65-66; SUPP 2-9	<i>Paquette Habana, Columbia, Filartega, Sumitomo Shoji, Hungary</i>
2-3	International Dispute Resolution	TEXT 85-109, 108-09; SUPP 11-18	<i>Asahi Metal, M/S Bremen, Matimak Trading, Helicopteros, Weber, Yahoo!</i>
3-4	Sovereign Immunity and the Act of State Doctrine	TEXT 66-67, 614-19; SUPP 23-26	<i>Saudi Arabia, W.S. Kirkpatrick, Argentina, Banco Nacionale</i>
4	EXAMINATION I		
INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS			
5-6	International Sales of Goods	TEXT 116-57; SUPP 30-38	<i>Asante Technologies, Chateau des Charmes, Delchi Carrier, MCC-Marble, Filanto, Valero Marketing, Transatlantic Financing</i>
REGULATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL MARKET			
7-8	Intellectual Property Rights and Licensing	TEXT 558-66, 576-79; SUPP 47-62	<i>India-Patent, Kmart, Lever Bros., Quality King, Subafilms, Steele, Hyundai Electronics</i>
8	Foreign Corrupt Practices	TEXT 541-47; SUPP 65-72	<i>Liebo</i>
9	EXAMINATION II		
INTERNATIONAL TRADE LAW			
9	U.S. Trade Law and the GATT/WTO Regime	TEXT 272-83, 288-313	<i>Japan Line</i>
10-11	Import Regulation and Unfair Trade Practices: Safeguards and Anti-Dumping and Countervailing Duties	TEXT 356-80; SUPP 75-77	<i>Heavyweight Motorcycles, Pesquera Mares, Japan Taxes, Cabot Corp.</i>
12	Nontariff Barriers to Trade	TEXT 321-51	<i>Thailand Restrictions, EC Measures Concerning Meat</i>
12-13	Customs: Classification and Valuation	TEXT 384-424; SUPP 82-84	<i>Camel Mfg., Better Home Plastics, Ferrostaal Metals, Rollerblade, Superior Wire</i>
14	Export Controls	TEXT 431-51; SUPP 92-95	<i>Dien</i>
15	EXAMINATION III		