

## International Legal Studies Course Offerings

There is no fixed set of courses that one must take in international law. Rather, there are (somewhat arbitrary) categories of courses from which to choose. You may want to sample from several categories or focus on only one or two. Recognizing this fact, this document is an effort to introduce you to the range of courses available and provide some tips regarding the selection of courses. It is not intended to, and cannot, provide a blueprint for your course selection because every student has different interests. Few of these courses have international law prerequisites beyond the basic international law course, though there are sometimes domestic courses that are either required or helpful. For example, a student interested in the international finance course may want to take a securities law course first, or at least contemporaneously.

It is also important to note that the list of courses provided includes most, but not all, of the international law courses offered in recent years. There is no guaranty that any particular course will be offered in coming years. It is also likely that additional courses, not included on this list, will be offered. Once again, therefore, this document is only suggestive.

### **Courses Recently Offered in International Law:**

<p><b><u>Foundation Course</u></b></p> <p>International Law</p>	<p><b><u>Public International Law</u></b></p> <p>Human Rights International Organizations Foreign Affairs Law Refugee Law International Development Law Human Rights Clinic</p>
<p><b><u>General Topics</u></b></p> <p>International Trade International Civil Litigation International Law Workshop EU Law</p>	
<p><b><u>Private International Law</u></b></p> <p>International Business Transactions International Finance International Tax</p>	<p><b><u>Regulatory Topics</u></b></p> <p>International Environmental Law International Intellectual Property Ocean Law and Policy</p>

## **Foundation Course**

The only course that every student with an interest in international law should take is the basic international law course. Though its focus is more on public law issues than private ones, it is the foundation of all the other classes. This course is normally offered, and you should try to make it the first international law course you take.

## **General Topics Courses**

This category consists of courses that have implications for a fairly broad set of issues and somewhat more general topics than the classes in the other categories. It is not necessarily better to take any or all of these classes before selecting classes from the other categories, but for a student interested in a grounding in overall international law issues, these classes may be appropriate.

The international workshop (whose title is not self-explanatory) consists of a series of presentations by faculty – mostly from other law schools. The papers being presented are in-progress, so it is an opportunity to see international law scholarship as it actually takes place. Authors present their papers and are then questioned by Boalt Hall students and faculty. There is no specific topic for the series, so students may encounter, for example, a human rights paper one week and a paper on international trade the next.

## **Private International Law Courses**

These classes (with the exception of the domestic law classes) focus on business law issues as they arise in the international context. For students who are interested in practicing international law while working for private law firms, these classes are likely to be the most useful.

A note on domestic law courses: It is important to remember that as a lawyer, when you are doing international law on the private side, your clients will be paying you for your expertise in U.S. law – meaning that you should consider classes in domestic business law.

## **Public International Law Courses**

These courses deal primarily with specific topics in public law because the introductory course provides the necessary background to focus on particular areas of interest. These courses should be considered by students who have interests in these particular areas, or who simply want to expose themselves to them. They will also interest students with a general interest in public international law issues.

## **Regulatory Topics Courses**

These courses are often included under the heading of public law. Each class confronts a specific regulatory challenge for the international community. Like the public courses, these classes should interest students with particular interests in these topics or simply a desire to study one international law topic in depth.