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University of Vienna  
School of Law

**LL.M. in International Legal Studies**

**Summer Semester 2017**

**Course Title: International Conflicts: Basic and Current Issues (Seminar)**

**Professor: Hanspeter Neuhold**

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**Objective :** This seminar is both an opportunity and a challenge: students are requested to apply the knowledge gained in the course on Legal Foundations of World Politics to basic issues raised by the principles discussed in this course or the legal and political aspects of or major contemporary conflicts.

Participants will do research and then write and present a seminar paper (5.000-7.000 words) with the assistance of the instructor.

**Description of the seminar :** Participants can pick a topic from a list offered by the instructor. They may also suggest a topic of their own, provided it fits under the rather broad "umbrella" of the seminar. They are expected to find the bulk of the material – literature and documents – themselves, although the instructor is ready to offer advice.

Topics proposed by the instructor will be explained at the first meeting of the seminar in late January 2017. No general introductory presentation will be given by the instructor, since relevant basic information has already been provided in the above-mentioned course.

Once a student has chosen a topic, he/she will be asked to send an outline to the instructor. This outline ought to contain the principal research questions/theses to be addressed, the main points in the order in which they will be covered, the method to be applied and the material to be used. The instructor's feedback will provide further guidance.

At another seminar meeting in early March 2017, participants will report on progress made by then. Discussants will be appointed to start the debate on the papers to be presented in May 2017. *Outlines of all papers will be exchanged at least one week before presentation in order to make discussions more focused.* When presenting their papers, students must not speak for more than twenty minutes and are not allowed to read their

**LL.M. in International Legal Studies - University of Vienna, Law School**

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manuscripts. Instead, they ought to present their main findings on the basis of written notes and/or power points. Each presentation will be followed by a debate.

Participants will have two weeks after this last seminar session for submitting their draft paper to the instructor, taking suggestions and critical remarks made by the latter and other students after the oral presentation into account. Non-native speakers are advised to seek the assistance of a colleague whose mother tongue is English.

The instructor will return the drafts with his comments, proposals and corrections. Thereafter students will have another week for submitting the final version which will be graded.

Participants are urged to stay in contact with the instructor all the time, primarily by e-mail.

Written guidelines for writing a seminar paper will be made available.