



University of Vienna

School of Law

LL.M. in International Legal Studies

Winter Semester 2016/2017

Course Title: Research Seminar in International Law

Professor: August Reinisch

I. Course Description and Objectives

This seminar will address various topical issues in international law. Students will have to prepare short research papers which will be discussed and evaluated in class. The seminar aims at providing course participants with the required skills and knowledge for the preparation of a master thesis in the International Legal Studies program.

II. Course Outline

This course will not address any specific areas of international law. Rather, it will be sequenced in a number of meetings during which the participants should be able to exchange their research experiences throughout the entire semester. The following areas are suggested for research; during the semester other topics may be added:

1. Immunities of States and International Organizations
2. Diplomatic Protection for Dual Nationals and Corporations
3. Right to Self-determination/Secession of States
4. State Succession and Treaty Dis-/Continuity
5. State Responsibility and Accountability of Business Corporations
6. The Use of Force in International Relations

Course participants are required to write short (10 page) research notes. These papers should reflect the main problems of the respective research topics and to contain references to the major scholarly works in the field as well as proper footnotes, etc.



III. Basic Texts

As a starting point for almost all research issues the main international law treatises should be consulted. Among them are:

J. Crawford, *Brownlie's Principles of Public International Law*, 8th ed. (Oxford University Press, 2012).

A. Cassese, *International Law*, 2nd ed. (Oxford University Press, 2005).

L. Damrosch/L. Henkin/S. Murphy/H.Smit, *International Law, Cases and Materials*, 5th ed. (American Casebooks) (West Publishing, 2009).

M. Shaw, *International Law*, 6th ed. (Cambridge University Press, 2008).

IV. Recommended Internet Sites

Peace Palace: <http://www.ppl.nl/>

ASIL: <http://www.asil.org/>

MPIL: http://www.mpil.de/ww/en/pub/library/catalogues_databases.cfm

ILC: <http://www.un.org/law/ilc/>

IDI: <http://www.idi-iil.org/>

ILA: www.ila-hq.org

EU: <http://europa.eu.int/>

V. Assessment Method

A. There will be no final examination. Instead the course assessment will be based on the research papers handed in during the semester. The papers will be worth 70% of the final course mark.

B. Class participation is expected. It will be worth 30% of the final course mark.