

***POLITICAL AND LEGAL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL
BUSINESS (B.A. 317)***

Fall 2010: Wednesday 12:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

COURSE SYLLABUS

Professor: Allan Samson

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Required Textbook: Global Business Today, 6th ed., Charles W.L. Hill, McGraw-Hill

This course will consider the political, economic, cultural, and legal aspects of international business. It will consider the advisable ways to conduct international business – whether through exports, foreign direct investment, licensing, franchising, or joint ventures. It will consider important issues of international business ethics, political risks, and investment strategies. It will consider aspects of international business law.

Should you think twice about buying a pair of Nike shoes?? Can you shop at Wal-Mart in good conscience?? What strategies should you follow if you were the international business lawyer for a French company which wanted to open up French supermarkets in China?? What strategies would you advise if you were the Chinese government lawyer in charge of allowing the French supermarkets to open?? What is globalization?? How unstoppable a force is globalization?? What is outsourcing?? Is political ideology important any longer in international business?? Is democracy beneficial for international development??

All of these questions and more will be subjects for the class.

All members of the class will write a paper on an aspect of international business. The subject of the paper will be decided on by the students in consultation with the professor. The topic should be on an important issue concerning an international business topic. It could concern a specific company or companies or it could concern a specific topic, such as international business ethics, corruption, transparency, international business law or any one of many other topics. The choice will be yours.

Attendance;

Students are expected to attend each class session. If you are not able to attend, please give prior notice or present your own death certificate.. Please come on time. Attendance will

be taken 10-15 minutes after the class begins. Lack of fluency in English will not be a problem. I will understand what you mean.

CLASS SCHEDULE

All chapters in Global Business Today have an Opening Case, a Closing Case, A Country or a Management Focus Case, and Critical Thinking and Discussion Questions. Students will be expected to analyze and answer all Discussion questions.

In addition I will e-mail to students articles (often from the New York Times) that are relevant to the assigned readings for the date. You will receive the e-mailed articles one to four days before the class, and should come prepared to discuss the article.

August 23: Chapter 1

September 1: Chapter 2 and Chapter 3

September 8: Chapter 4

September 15: Chapter 5 and Chapter 6

September 22: Chapter 7

September 29: Chapter 9 and Chapter 10

October 6: Chapter 11

October 13: Chapter 11 and Chapter 12

October 20: Mid-Term

October 27: Chapter 13 and Chapter 14

November 3: Selected articles on globalization

November 10: Selected readings on International Business Law (will be provided)

November 17: Selected readings on International Business Law (will be provided)

November 24: NO CLASS

December 1: Selected readings on International Business Law

There will be one mid-term and one final. The exams may be either “open book” or “closed book.”

Grading Policy

The grade structure will be as follows:

Attendance	10 per cent
Mid-Term	30 per cent
Final Exam	40 per cent
Research paper	20 per cent