**INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW** Spring 2016 Room 360 MTW 6:00 PM

Professor Roberto Virzo Room 367; Office hours: 3:00-4:00 pm T WTh.

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**Description:**

This course offers an introduction to international environmental law. It provides the student with the most important international issues related to the protection of the environment. In its first part, the course will deal with general issues as sources and principles of international environmental law, general rights and obligations of states; issues of compliance, implementation and settlement of disputes. It will also address a thorough examination of specific topics included the international regulation of the marine environment, the protection of the atmosphere; the protection of endangered species and of biodiversity. The course will eventually examine the conflicts between international environmental law and international economic law as well as the relationship between international human rights and the protection of the environment. Relevant cases will be presented during the course for analysis and discussion.

**Tentative Schedule of Topics:**


1/25 The Sources of International Environmental Law and the Role of Treaties

1/26 and 1/27 General Principles of International Environmental Law

2/1 and 2/2 Issues of Implementation: Dispute Settlement and Compliance Mechanism in Multilateral Environmental Agreements

2/3 and 2/8 The International Protection of the Marine Environment

2/9 The International Protection of Endangered Species

2/10 The Protection of the Atmosphere and Climate Change

2/15 The Protection of the Environment and International Trade Law

2/16 The Relationship between Human Rights and the Protection of the Environment
2/17 Conclusions:

2/19 Final Exam

Assignments


I week: pp. 3-21  
II week: pp. 33-37; 51-87  
III week: pp. 243-266; 285-292; 94-107  
IV week: pp. 162-172; 131-155  
V week: pp. 391-405; 297-304; 331-335

Exam

The exam will be open-book. The exam will be one hour long, and will test only material on the syllabus, as emended. It will consist of two short answers. The course will be letter graded. I may increase exam grades upon active and informed participation in class.