

## SEMESTER – VI

### GIR 3601 INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL LAW

#### Course description

This paper examines the role that international law and legal institutions play in international relations. The paper begins by exploring broad theoretical questions as why states create international law and international legal institutions; and the conditions under which states are likely to comply with the rules set out by international law.

#### Course Outcomes

- Learning this course will help the students to conduct legal research using primary and secondary material to resolve practical and theoretical problems.
- An understanding of this paper will empower the student community to place a principled and ethical argument in issues pertinent to human rights, refugees, environment, conventional as well as a non-conventional arms race, etc.
- Learning this course will equip students to apply for internships in various research institutes and placement opportunities in various NGOs.

**Unit I:** International Law – concept, nature, development and significance; sources and Evidence of International Law; International legal principles – equality, treaty obligation, and nationality; Relation Between National and International Law/Municipal Law.

**Unit II:** Subjects of International Law

- a. International Organizations: Legal Definition, Rights and Duties under International Law; Other International Actors: Non-State Actors and International Regulations of their Activities
- b. State: Essentials of Statehood; Rights and duties of the state
- c. Individuals: Right to Self Determination, Citizenship, Nationality, Statelessness and Extradition

**Unit III:** International Agreements/Law of Treaties - General Principles, Interpretation of Treaties, Breach and Enforcement

**Unit IV:** Peaceful Settlement of Disputes

**Unit V:** Laws of Peace

- a. Laws of the Sea
- b. Laws of the Air Space and Outer Space
- c. The Environment
- d. Human Rights
- e. Refugee Rights
- f. International Humanitarian Law

**Unit VI: Laws of Force**

- a. Collective Security
- b. Laws of war
- c. Arms Control and Disarmament
- d. International Criminal Law – War Crimes and Terrorism

**Reading Materials**

- Akehurst's Modern Introduction of International Law, Routledge, 1997
- Andrew Clapham, Human Rights: A Very Short Introduction, OUP, 2007
- Antonio Cassese, International Law, OUP, 2004
- Carrubba, Clifford. 2005. Courts and Compliance in International Regulatory Regimes. *Journal of Politics* 67:2.
- Demrosch, Henkin, Pugh, Schachter, & Smit, *International Law: Cases & Materials*. 4th ed. (West Publishing Co., 2001)
- Downs, et al. "Is the Good News about Compliance Good News about Cooperation?" *International Organization*, 1996.
- Downs, George and Michael Jones. 2002. Reputation, Compliance, and International Law. *Journal of Legal Studies* 33(1): S95-114.
- Ian Brownlie, Principles of Public International Law, OUP, 2008.
- Jack L. Goldsmith. Eric A. Posner. 2005. *The Limits of International Law*. Oxford University Press.
- Jeffrey L. Dunoff. Steven Ratner. David Wippman. 2006. *International Law: Norms, Actors, Processes*. Aspen Law & Business Publishers. (Second edition)
- Malanczuk, Peter. *Modern Introduction to International Law*, seventh 7th Edition. Routledge.
- Rosalyn Higgins, Problems and Prospects: International Law, How we use it, OUP, 1994.