

INTERNATIONAL LAW / COMPARATIVE

This is a listing of selected courses which compare aspects between differing domestic legal systems of foreign countries.

Search International Law Comparative Courses (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?cluster=cluster_57)

LAW 1532 v00 Advanced Legal Writing for International Business Lawyers ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1532 v00](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%201532%20v00))

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This course is designed to provide students interested in transactional practice with hands-on insight into the cross-border practice of business law by creating a simulated law-firm environment in which students are asked to complete tasks as if they were junior associates.

The principle objectives of the course are to teach students how to communicate clearly, concisely, and appropriately in a business-law setting, and how to apply and adapt these skills to situations involving international, cross-cultural, and even multinational business transactions. Students will practice these skills through a variety of written and oral communication exercises based on actual cross-border transactions similar to those they will likely encounter as a junior transactional associate at a law firm. The focus of this course will be on practical skills, rather than on theoretical analysis.

Although some of our discussions and exercises will involve reviewing contract provisions and students will become familiar with basic contract structure, this is not a course on contract drafting. Rather, the focus is on developing the student's practical lawyering skills such that he or she is able to effectively communicate with parties from all sides of a cross-border business transaction and to recognize and overcome the principle cultural, linguistic, and other barriers to cross-cultural communication.

Enrollment by both JD and LL.M. students is encouraged. Class time generally will be split between lecturing and in-class exercises and discussion. The majority of the in-class exercises will utilize fact scenarios from actual deals and will involve students working in small groups or teams.

Prerequisite: Legal Practice: Writing and Analysis.

Recommended: Prior or concurrent enrollment in Corporations is recommended but not required.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this seminar and the Advanced Legal Writing Seminar, Advanced Legal Writing and Practice for Judicial Clerks and Civil Litigators, Advanced Legal Writing: Legal Writing as a Discipline, Advanced Legal Writing: Practical Skills from Retail Industry Examples, or Writing for Law Practice.

Note: Students may request a withdrawal from an academic advisor through the due date of the final draft of Writing Project #2.

LL.M. STUDENTS: THIS COURSE REQUIRES DEPARTMENTAL PERMISSION TO ENROLL. LL.M. students cannot register or put themselves on the waitlist for this course through GU Experience without prior departmental approval and confirmation from the Office of the Registrar. Students interested in taking this course should send an e-mail to lawgradprog@georgetown.edu indicating their interest in the course and their previous exposure to U.S. legal writing. The Office of the Registrar will confirm once the student may enroll or waitlist themselves.

LAW 091 v11 Comparative Constitutional Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 091 v11>)
J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

How do we lose and save a constitutional democracy? How can democratic backsliding be prevented? What should we consider in designing a constitution? Can constitutions exist without constitutionalism? What is an authoritarian constitution? How do constitutions transition and change occur? What forms of judicial review do courts employ? Is it possible to have an unconstitutional constitutional amendment? How do courts across the world interpret constitutions? Can constitutions be employed abusively?

Comparative constitutional law has exploded in contemporary constitutional practice and as a field of study. Events around the world—from Asia and the Middle East to Europe and Latin America—underscore the importance of understanding how constitutional democracies are born and how they can collapse. In this course, we will explore constitutions in global perspective, examining issues of constitutional structure and rights across comparative constitutional systems. We will cover topics like constitution-making, constitutional change, constitutional amendment, judicial review, and constitutional adjudication. Drawing on examples across the world, we will also examine individual rights issues, such as freedom of religion and freedom of expression, as well as constitutionalism in times of emergency and during the COVID-19 pandemic. We will also consider how constitutions can be abused and the question of whether and how constitutionalism might be able to endure in fragile democracies.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the Comparative Constitutional Law Seminar.

LAW 1946 v00 Comparative Constitutional Law - Free Expression (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1946 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This seminar considers issues of free expression as they have been dealt with by constitutional courts around the world. Every session will include treatment of U.S. law on the week's topic; other nations considered include Canada, Colombia, Hong Kong, Germany, Israel, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom (as well as the European Court of Human Rights). Topics covered include seditious speech, speech said to cause lawbreaking, national security, demonstrations in public spaces, false statements that harm reputation (libel), criticism of the judiciary, false statements as such, campaign finance, and regulation of the internet. We will discuss different doctrinal approaches, including balancing, proportionality, and categorical rules, and will consider the effects of politics, the legal culture, and culture more broadly on the shape of doctrine. Some previous knowledge of free expression law in one or more jurisdictions is recommended but not required.

Learning Objectives:

The objectives of the course are to:

1. Provide students with an understanding of key theories of free speech, particularly in modern democracies
2. Examine selected aspects of free speech law in a number of developed countries, including the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and Singapore
3. Familiarize students with canonical free speech cases

Prerequisite: Constitutional Law I: The Federal System.

Recommended: Constitutional Law II: Individual Rights and Liberties.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 091 v10 Comparative Constitutional Law Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 091 v10>)
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

How to lose and save a constitutional democracy? How to prevent democratic backsliding? How to design a constitution? Can constitutions exist without constitutionalism? What is an authoritarian constitution? How do constitutions transitions and change occur? What forms of judicial review do courts employ? Is it possible to have an unconstitutional constitutional amendment? How do courts across the world interpret constitutions? Can constitutions be employed abusively?

Comparative constitutional law has exploded in contemporary constitutional practice and as a field of study. Events around the world—from Asia and the Middle East to Europe and Latin America—underscore the importance of understanding how constitutional democracies are born and how they can collapse. In this course, we will explore constitutions in global perspective, examining issues of constitutional structure and rights across comparative constitutional systems. We will cover topics like constitution-making, constitutional change, constitutional amendment, judicial review, and constitutional interpretation. Drawing on examples across the world, we will also examine individual rights issues, such as freedom of religion, as well as constitutionalism in times of national emergency and in fragile democracies.

J.D. students who wish to write a fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement must register for the 3-credit section of the seminar. J.D. or LL.M. students taking the seminar for 2-credits will not need to write a paper. There are no prerequisites for taking the class.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the Comparative Constitutional Law course.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 079 v08 Comparative Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 079 v08>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

Comparative law involves the study of several global legal systems - including common law, civil law and religious law – with a goal of preparing students who may find their future careers require knowledge of more than one legal system. It may also be of interest to students who desire to examine the theoretical underpinnings of other countries' laws and courts out of academic interest. While the goal is to explore the application of comparative methodology to national and regional legal regimes, the focus will be on both the theoretical underpinnings of the comparative legal method and the historical development of the process for comparing rules, principles, and institutions of different countries. The course also emphasizes the current use of the comparative method in both public and private law by legal actors such as lawyers, judges, and legislators. In the light of contemporary developments, the course will also provide students the international perspective to make substantive connections between the American common law and other legal traditions, and consider recent debates whether national legal systems and institutions are converging or whether differing economic, political, and social environments are leading to greater diversity and possibly even conflict.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and the upperclass course, Comparative Law: Focus on EU and US or the first year elective by the same name.

LAW 1791 v00 Comparative Law: China in Context (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1791 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

This course surveys the legal system of the People's Republic of China, using China as a vehicle for asking broader questions about law and legal comparison. It is meant to be inviting to all students, including those with no background in China who wish to better understand the legal system of an increasingly important global power. Topics will include: China's traditional legal order and encounters with the West; the sources of law in contemporary China; courts and dispute resolution; the legal profession; the criminal justice system; selected topics in administrative law, constitutional law, economic law, environmental law, family law, international law, and labor law; China in transnational litigation; and the evolving use of digital technologies in Chinese law. As with any course in comparative law, a key aim will be to deepen understanding of our own legal system through close and careful examination of another.

LAW 079 v07 Comparative Law: Focus on EU and US (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 079 v07>)
J.D. Course | 2 credit hours

This course consists of an introduction to legal comparison with a focus on private law. The course is divided into two parts. The first part presents the functions and aims as well the methods of comparative law in general. After an overview of the legal systems in the world, the course analyses the civil law system in Europe and compares it with the common law system in the United States. It also shows how international and transnational laws address some of the differences between the two systems. While the course focuses on substantive law issues, in the fields of contract and tort, it also examines some structural issues – such as the court systems, the education of lawyers and the role of judicial review. The second part of the course aims at providing an understanding of the ways in which EU law impacts the evolution of national law. Special attention is devoted to the link between private law and the Single Market, but also to the cultural and linguistic obstacles that come up in the process of harmonization of national laws in Europe. Overall, the course also aims at providing a practical introduction to issues of European law faced by American lawyers. Further it will show how legal comparison is a means for thinking about the law in broader terms.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and the first year elective by the same name.

Note: In Spring 2025 this course will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays, 11:10-1:10 pm on the following dates: 1/13, 1/15, 1/22, 1/27, 1/29, 2/3, 2/5 2/10, 2/12, 2/19, 2/20 (Monday classes meet), 2/24, and 2/26.

LAW 084 v04 Conflict of Laws (Private International Law) (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 084 v04>)
J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

In our increasingly globalized world, litigation frequently transcends state or national borders. Transnational litigation implicates the three main topics addressed by the field of Conflict of Laws (also known as Private International Law): Jurisdiction/choice of forum; choice of law; and enforcement of foreign judgments. This course focuses on how U.S. courts resolve these issues (although some attention will be paid to how other countries address them). Special attention will be devoted to the extraterritorial application of US law and to conflict of laws issues that arise in transnational litigation involving Business & Human Rights.

LAW 014 v01 Current Issues in Transnational (Private International) Law Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 014 v01>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This seminar provides an introduction to the increasingly important field of private international law as well as an opportunity to explore in depth specific issues now under active consideration in the various international and regional organizations working on the development, codification and harmonization of private international law. Beyond the “classic” PIL questions of jurisdiction, choice of law, judicial assistance and enforcement of judgments, we will explore such topics as international family law (including international adoption, abduction and enforcement of child support and family maintenance), alternative dispute settlement mechanisms (including international mediation and commercial and investment arbitration), as well as the cross-border aspects of such topics as data protection and privacy, bankruptcy/insolvency, secured transactions, securities law, intellectual property, transport of goods by sea, letters of credit, leasing law, consumer protection, and even wills and trusts. You may write your papers in any of these areas (among others). All students will be expected to choose a topic to research, write and present to the class.

This course requires a paper and an oral presentation. It is open to J.D. and LL.M. students. For J.D. students who choose the 3 credit “writing seminar” option, the objective will be to research and write analytical papers of publishable quality on discrete topics of current importance in transnational practice. Students will be required to satisfy the WR requirement including (1) selection of a paper topic approved by the professor, (2) submission of an outline, followed by feedback from the professor, (3) submission of a draft paper of at least 6,000 words exclusive of footnotes, followed by feedback from the professor, and (4) submission of a final paper of at least 6,000 words exclusive of footnotes, incorporating the professor’s suggested revisions. The paper must use legal forms of citation, where appropriate.

Learning goals for this course:

Familiarity with substance of “Private International Law”, where it is developed and how; understanding of the relationship between international and domestic law; ability to research effectively in the field; ability to write coherently and present conclusions orally.

Recommended: International Law I.

Note: This course requires a paper. Students must register for the 3 credit section of the course if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 156 v01 Environmental Research Workshop ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 156 v01](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20156%20v01))
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

Students in this class will have an opportunity to study, comment on, and develop scholarship of their own regarding environmental law and policy. The class will include introductory materials and discussion about attributes and methods of environmental scholarship. Then the workshop will introduce you to some of the best academic scholars in environmental law who will present a work-in-progress. In both advance written comments and through workshop discussion, students will engage presenting scholars regarding their scholarship. Depending on the presenters' paper subjects and others' availability, the workshop might also include a few classes with responsive comments from an outside visitor from government, not-for-profits, law firms, businesses, or legal academe.

Students can fulfill their Georgetown Law upper level writing requirement with an opportunity to produce substantial, publishable legal scholarship on a topic related to environmental, energy, or natural resource law, broadly defined, and receive three credits for their efforts. All students will provide all speakers and the professor with at least brief (no more than one page) of advance comments and questions. Two credit students will provide more in-depth comments to three speakers and the professor, with such comments expected to be five pages in length and reflect careful reading of both the paper and, as necessary to provide knowledgeable comments, draw on selective delving into other scholarly or primary materials relevant to, or referenced in, the presented paper. Our last session together will include a bit of debriefing, but will mainly be a session for three credit students to present their drafts and receive comments.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 726 v00 Global Competition Law and Policy ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 726 v00](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20726%20v00))
LL.M. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This course examines the current state of competition (or "antitrust") policies and enforcement mechanisms around the world, using case studies from the US, EU, Asia and elsewhere. The international competition community is in the throes of a vigorous re-examination of the goals and tools of competition regulation and policy: has inadequate or ineffective competition regulation contributed to excessive industry concentration, income inequality, stagnant wage growth, and related harm to consumers and society? Or are existing competition enforcement tools sufficient to address actual competition problems, leaving other economic and social issues to be better addressed by other public policies and tools? Do digital markets and "platforms" require special rules? These issues present the challenges of accommodating competition policy to evolving political, economic and social demands.

Prerequisite: For J.D. students: Antitrust Law or Antitrust Economics and Law. LL.M. students should have some previous work experience or coursework in U.S. antitrust law or competition regulation in other jurisdictions; otherwise professor's approval required before enrolling.

Note: This course is part of the following graduate programs: International Business and Economic Law LL.M. International Business and Economic Law LL.M. - List A International Legal Studies LL.M.

This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement for JD students. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement for JD students.

LAW 726 v01 Global Competition Law and Policy ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 726 v01](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20726%20v01))
LL.M. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This seminar will examine the development of competition laws around the world, differences in substantive standards among the major enforcement jurisdictions; the role of historical, political, and economic forces that affect those differences; and the possible consequences of those differences. We will start with a basic understanding of competition principles common to key jurisdictions including the U.S., Canada, the EC, the UK, and Japan, and will compare and contrast these with the principles applied in developing and transition economies, such as China, Mexico, India, and South Africa. Particular emphasis will be on current issues and trends including the role of antitrust in a digital economy, multi-jurisdictional merger control, and regulation of dominant firm conduct. We will also consider the role of competition policy in economic and political development generally.

Prerequisite: For J.D. students: Antitrust Law or Antitrust Economics and Law. LL.M. students should have some previous work experience or coursework U.S. antitrust law or competition regulation in other jurisdictions; otherwise professor's approval required before enrolling.

LAW 594 v00 Global Health Law: An Intensive, Problem-Based Exploration (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 594 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

In this intensive course, students will work with faculty and fellows at the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law to gain an in-depth understanding of global health law through intensive examination and role play of one or more major problems in global health. Potential problems could include a naturally occurring infectious disease epidemic such as extensively drug resistant tuberculosis; a future epidemic such as pandemic Influenza (A) H5N1; an intentional introduction of a lethal pathogen such as anthrax; and/or major chronic diseases caused by obesity or tobacco use. Students should come to this course with a basic level of understanding of global health law, including the major international health treaties and governing structures. When studying and role playing these kinds of problems, students will be asked to construct innovative methods of global health governance, drawing upon existing international health law and institutions, along with a vision for more ideal models.

Full attendance and participation is required at all sessions. Class sessions will consist of a combination of lecture, case simulations, and discussion. Grades are based on student participation and a final paper.

Note: A student will be permitted to drop a course that meets for the first time after the add/drop period, without a transcript notation, if a student submits a written request to the Office of the Registrar prior to the start of the second class meeting. Withdrawals are permitted up until the last class for this specific course.

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY AT ALL CLASS SESSIONS. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist. All enrolled students must attend each class session in its entirety. Failure to attend the first class session in its entirety will result in a drop; failure to attend any subsequent class session in its entirety will result in a withdrawal. Enrolled students will have until the beginning of the second class session to request a drop by contacting the Office of the Registrar; a student who no longer wishes to remain enrolled after the second class session begins will not be permitted to drop the class but may request a withdrawal from an academic advisor in the Office of Academic Affairs. Withdrawals are permitted up until the last class for this specific course.

LAW 565 v00 Globalization, Work, and Inequality Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 565 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

A backlash against globalization has emerged in advanced economies as a result of job loss, wage stagnation, precarious work and economic insecurity for the middle class. The liberal globalization of the last three decades is under attack for the unequal distribution of its gains and its failure to provide better opportunities for ordinary working people. Reimagining the global economy will require placing work front and center. This seminar will explore the changing nature of the workplace due to global competition and technological change. It will examine important policy debates about how best to create jobs, improve working conditions, and promote economic growth and well-being. We will analyze how a variety of factors, such as new modes of production and technologies, increasing participation of women in the economy, widespread migration flows, increasing global trade and capital mobility, and the rise of informal economies challenge the assumptions underlying traditional labor and employment regulation in both developed and developing countries. We will consider an array of innovative attempts – national, international, transnational, public, private and mixed – to improve workplace conditions and assure employment opportunity consistent with economic growth and stability. We will also inquire about the moral and political commitments associated with various approaches.

There are no prerequisites. All students are welcome.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3-credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2-credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 3145 v00 Indigenous Health Law and Access to Health Care
(<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 3145 v00>)

LL.M. Seminar (cross-listed) | 1 credit hour

This course will examine US treaties, court cases, and Congressional acts to explore what it means for the Right to Health to exist, the ways that right is recognized among indigenous peoples, and major shortfalls in achieving equity through these paths. American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIAN) experience serious health disparities in key morbidity/mortality indicators. AIANs are also a bell-weather subgroup in the US for unusual disease such as bubonic plague or the rapid dissemination of novel infectious disease such as happened among tribes in the covid-19 pandemic. In addition to risk and vulnerability that contribute to health disparities, sovereign nation status of the 574 federally recognized tribes in the US and the Indian Health Service that serves them are particular structures shown to mitigate despair and promote future well-being in remarkably difficult circumstances. There are unique laws, operations, and tensions that undergird these structures. Recent actions to strengthen treaty obligations and extend equity movements to indigenous peoples are gathering energy to address health and justice disparities.

This course focuses on the laws and systems foundational to access to care and health services for Indigenous peoples in the US. The course will include discussions on self-determination, sovereignty, funding, social determinants of health, inter-generational trauma and additional elements of Indigenous health law in the US and compare these to other Indigenous health systems particularly those in Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

The course is designed to provide practical skills for students interested in health equity and justice, Indigenous access to care, Indigenous health law, and policy implementation. The course illuminates, in particular, outcomes of shared American history and distinctive obligations, systems, and opportunities to address ethnic disparities.

Recommended: Administrative Law; Federal Indian Law.

LAW 230 v00 International and Comparative Law on Women's Human Rights
(<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 230 v00>)

J.D. Course (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

In many parts of the world, women are discriminated against, abused, treated as property, and even murdered because they are women. But today, there is a substantial body of international and regional human rights law that can be used to change the national laws that permit these practices or fail to protect women against them. In addition, many countries have begun to give women equal rights in many fields. Thus, there is now a body of human rights and comparative law that advocates can use to advance equal human rights for women.

This course provides students with an overview of that law. It introduces them to the many forms of discrimination and violence women still face and teaches them about the major human rights treaties that can help women achieve equality with men. These include the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; and the regional human rights treaties from Africa, the Americas, and Europe. Students study the work of the human rights bodies that measure state compliance with these treaties, including their guidelines and case law on issues affecting women. The course also examines comparative law on human rights issues such as sex-based discrimination in employment, inheritance, and family law rights, domestic violence and female genital mutilation, polygamy and its impact on women and children, and women's lack of reproductive rights.

National court decisions from countries in both common law and civil law jurisdictions show how courts are using international and regional human rights law to help resolve domestic law issues. As some issues pose difficult conflicts between women's right to equality with opposing assertions of religious and cultural rights to discriminate, the course also examines how human rights bodies resolve those conflicts and asks how they should be resolved.

Note: For J.D. Students: Students Enrolled in the International Women's Human Rights Clinic must take this course as a pre- or co-requisite, but it is also open to other J.D. students and to LL.M. students.

LAW 882 v08 International Arbitration
(<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 882 v08>)

LL.M. Course (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This course aims to familiarize students with international commercial arbitration and will follow the traditional steps of international arbitration proceedings from the registration of the dispute to enforcement and challenges of an award in national courts. This course will not rely solely on US law but, instead, adopt a global approach to international arbitration.

Recommended: International Law I: Introduction to International Law (or the equivalent International Law I); International Business Transactions.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and International Commercial Arbitration, Introduction to Commercial Arbitration, Introduction to International Commercial Arbitration or the J.D. seminar, International Commercial Arbitration Seminar (CTLS course).

LAW 676 v00 Investor-State Dispute Resolution Seminar ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 676 v00](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20676%20v00))
LL.M Seminar | 3 credit hours

The subject of investor-state disputes and their resolution lies at the cutting edge of international law, and is a major factor in the development of the global economic system in years to come. Study of this form of arbitration provides insight into the evolving shape of customary international law, the conflict between capital-importing and capital-exporting states, and the status of individuals in the international legal order. This seminar will provide students with a firm grounding in the history, present practice, and future implications of arbitration between foreign investors and host states, sanctioned by multilateral and bilateral investment treaties. Topics that will be covered in this course are the history of the treatment of aliens and investments under international law; an overview of the most important international treaties that give investors a right to arbitration of claims; the most important elements of procedure that characterize investor-state arbitration, including tribunal composition, jurisdiction, evidence, award and challenge or annulment; substantive law of investment arbitration, the standards that apply when a tribunal determines whether a breach of the treaty has occurred; and the future development of investor-state arbitration including the challenges of globalization and other stresses, the clash of capital-importing and capital-exporting countries, environmental protection and free trade, restrictions on state sovereignty, the construction of an international investment jurisprudence, the limits on arbitrability, and the expansion of multilateral investment protections worldwide. Active participation in discussion of the course materials is required.

Prerequisite: International Law I

Recommended: International Commercial Arbitration

Note: For the Spring section: FIRST CLASS ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist.

Student who no longer wishes to remain enrolled will not be permitted to drop the class but may request a withdrawal BY PROFESSOR PERMISSION ONLY. This course requires a paper. J.D. Students: this will fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 045 v03 Law and Multiculturalism Seminar ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 045 v03](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20045%20v03))
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 3 credit hours

The aim of this course is to introduce the students to the ways in which liberal constitutionalism deals with the fact of difference (religious, ethnic, or national). After general theoretical introduction to various issues (such as law, culture and difference, politics of recognition and politics of redistribution, the risks of politics of identity, the liberal and feminist critiques of multicultural politics, the analytical problem of group rights), the course will survey the ways that liberal democracies deal with the claims of several groups within society to be different. We will read cases and materials from the United States, Canada, France, Israel, India, and Germany.

LAW 593 v00 National and Global Health Law: O'Neill Colloquium ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 593 v00](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20593%20v00))
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

In this interdisciplinary colloquium, leading national and international scholars in a range of domains will explore fundamental normative and policy problems of contemporary concern in health law. Topics will include health care, public health, global health, science, regulation, politics, ethics, and policy. The colloquium will have participants from across the Georgetown University campus among faculty, senior administration, and students, as well as participants in the Washington health policy and legislative community.

Each seminar session will focus on a presentation by, or structured dialogue with, distinguished guest speakers. Students from the Law Center and other schools within Georgetown University (including Nursing and Health Studies, Medicine, Arts and Sciences, Foreign Service, Business, and other graduate programs) will be expected to prepare for intensive discussions in which experts, faculty and students explore, analyze and deepen their understanding of issues selected for consideration each month. The colloquia will be open to other students and faculty members across Georgetown University as well as interested members of the public, particularly professionals working in health law and policy in Washington.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this course and Pandemics, Global Health, and the Law Seminar.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 331 v01 Nationalisms, States, & Cultural Identities Seminar ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 331 v01](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20331%20v01))
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

This seminar is about the phenomena of national and cultural identity formation within states and non-state groups (ethnic, racial, regional, religious, cultural, tribal) and the roles played by law and culture in defining and distributing membership in a collective or "national" community. The course material will provide a foundation in political theories of nationalism and will focus on two different forms of contemporary nationalism: the rise of a new American and predominantly white nationalism (since the 2016 election) and a non-US example of a sovereignty or self-determination movement (such as the Catalan independence movement in Spain). Along the way we will discuss additional and alternative forms of belonging and exclusion, such as monuments and memory, statelessness and diaspora, and postcolonial and cosmopolitan forms of citizenship. This interdisciplinary and comparative seminar is geared toward better understanding how law and culture are used to divide and unify diverse populations, and exploring how democratic, heterogeneous states and communities might find common purpose.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this seminar and Regulating Migration: Comparative Perspectives and Theory Seminar.

LAW 1939 v00 Regulating Migration: Comparative Perspectives and Theory Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1939 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This course explores how different societies regulate human mobility. Using a comparative, law and society approach, we will denaturalize and probe the basic norms and values of our own immigration system by examining alternatives. As we will see, these systems answer three essential questions: (1) who gets to join a society (“admissions”); (2) what rights and obligations these new entrants to society have (“membership”); and (3) how much coercion these systems use to enforce (1) and (2) (what we will call “closure”). Some of these examples we will examine are historic and some are contemporary; some are more restrictive than our system and some are more open.

In every case, we will see that these real-world systems contain implicit answers to questions at the heart of political theory and political ethics. What qualities should we value in new members of our society? What are the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and what forms of belonging outside citizenship – if any – should societies grant? How much coercion is it OK to use in migration control, and to what ends?

In the last third of the course, students will use the normative intuitions they have developed through contact with the case studies to grapple directly with classic and contemporary theoretical work asking these same questions. Students who opt into the three-credit version of the class will develop their own research projects that address the relationship between (im)migration law and public values.

Learning Objectives:

Substantive learning objectives:

- To contextualize familiar bodies of domestic and international law within a broader set of institutions and bodies of law that regulate human mobility;
- To understand some of the different designs that are possible for these systems;
- To begin to develop an understanding of the trade-offs, values, and assumptions embedded in these institutional designs, and to understand how these institutional designs affect people and communities (migrants and others) (ILO); and
- To see connections between migration, migration law, and phenomena including national identity, politics, political economy, labor, race, gender, and the state (ILO)

Skills:

- Public speaking and oral presentation
- Critical thinking
- Consideration of ethical dimensions of public policy
- Developing and writing a scholarly research paper (WR)

Recommended: Immigration Law & Policy or Comparative Law.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for this seminar and Nationalisms, States & Cultural Identities Seminar.

Note: Laptops may not be used during class sessions.

This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements

LAW 1390 v00 Religion and Constitutions in Global Perspective Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1390 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

All constitutions around the world deal with religion. Some constitutional systems are theocratic, some accommodate religion, while yet others advocate neutrality toward religious institutions or call for a strict separation between religion and the state. This course examines core questions regarding how religion and law interact in constitutional systems globally. We will explore the role of religion and the state drawn from comparative contexts including Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. We will evaluate the challenges faced by the different models of the relationship between the state and the church (or mosque) in our modern world. To what extent is liberal constitutionalism consistent with constitutional designs that privilege a particular religion? Should religion or secularism ever be placed beyond constitutional change, like through constitutional eternity clauses?

We will also consider the individual right of religious freedom and the scope of its protection globally. What counts as “religion” and religious freedom? Who is better placed to make these determinations—the courts, legislature, executive, or the people? We will discuss controversies relating to these questions, such as apostasy, religious conversion, religious symbols, and bans on religious dress like headscarves and burkinis. This course will also explore contemporary issues relating to religion and gender, multiculturalism, religious arbitration, and conscience claims.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 260 v04 Research Skills in International and Comparative Law (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 260 v04>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2 credit hours

Whether they are representing couples in transnational adoptions or multinational enterprises in cross-border mergers, legal practitioners increasingly are expected to consult international and foreign legal materials. This course will familiarize students with the best tools for researching international law and the domestic law of jurisdictions outside the U.S., enabling them to approach these tasks with confidence, rather than trepidation. Students will learn how to efficiently locate multilateral and bilateral treaties, decisions issued by international tribunals, documentation produced by the United Nations and other international organizations, as well as legislation and case law from selected foreign jurisdictions, including the European Union. Tools for topical research in specialized fields, such as human rights, international trade, and investor-state arbitration, also will be covered. Students will refine their information-gathering skills through a series of in-class research exercises and take-home quizzes based on real world, practice-oriented scenarios. This course will be especially beneficial for journal editors, students participating in the Jessup International Moot Court competition and other international competitions, and for students interested in pursuing careers in international law or in practicing law outside their home jurisdiction.

Recommended: Prior or concurrent enrollment in International Law I: Introduction to International Law.

LAW 1779 v00 Roman Law Seminar: Family, Property, and Succession (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1779 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

Roman law developed over the course of more than one thousand years, and it continues to influence contemporary legal systems throughout the world. In this course, we will examine the portions of Roman private law that correspond to the Anglo-American law of family, property, and wills and estates. Readings will consist of excerpts (in translation) from Roman legal sources, principally Justinian's Digest. No background knowledge of Roman law or of Roman history is required.

Note: Laptop use is not permitted in this course (unless necessary to conduct Zoom instruction).

LAW 1824 v00 Technology Platform Governance in Global Perspective Seminar (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1824 v00>)

J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

This course will explore the political economy, governance, and legal regulation of global technology platform giants. After providing an introduction to the structure and operation of technology platforms, it will consider case studies from different parts of the globe that spotlight a range of current legal and policy problems, including, among others: content governance (including both content removal and content provision); privacy and data protection; internet access and digital inclusion; competition, consumer protection, and worker protection issues created by and within platform ecosystems; and platform entanglements with geopolitical and state security concerns.

Note: Enrollment in the LAWG section of the seminar is restricted to students in the Technology Law and Policy LL.M. and the Master of Law and Technology programs.

FIRST CLASS ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY. Enrolled students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain enrolled. Waitlisted students must be in attendance at the start of the first class session in order to remain eligible to be admitted off the waitlist. The 2-credit version of this seminar requires multiple short papers. J.D. students must register for the 3-credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2-credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.

LAW 1663 v00 The Federal Courts and the World Seminar: History, Developments, and Problems (<https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 1663 v00>)

J.D. Seminar | 2 credit hours

This course investigates the federal courts' role in United States foreign affairs. It is a commonplace that the courts take a backseat to the political branches on issues relating to foreign affairs. But that truism, though generally accurate, obscures more than it reveals, for the federal courts routinely adjudicate cases with significant implications for the United States' relations with the world—as they have since 1789. In this course, we will explore several fundamental questions: What kinds of foreign affair issues have the courts historically addressed? How has the courts' jurisdiction over cases implicating foreign affairs changed over time? How have the courts handled foreign and international law? What impact have separation of powers principles had on the courts' decision-making?

The course is organized thematically; in each two- or three-week unit we will focus on a particular issue, including the foreign affairs background to the establishment of federal courts under Article III of the Constitution; the status of international and foreign law in federal court; foreign states as litigants in federal court; and the reach of the courts' jurisdiction beyond U.S. territory. Each unit will be framed in historical perspective, exploring both the courts' past practice and their modern approach.

This is not a survey course on the law of U.S. foreign affairs; we will not address directly many of the topics that would be covered in such a course—including the allocation of foreign affairs responsibility between the Executive and Congress; the scope of Presidential war power; and treaty-making and executive agreements. Instead, the focus here is squarely on the courts and their interactions with the world.

By the end of the semester, students should be able to do the following:

- Demonstrate a general understanding of the various ways in which the federal courts address issues that have implications for the United States' relations with foreign nations.
- Recognize how the courts' role in foreign affairs has changed over time, and understand what has driven those changes.
- Draw connections between different doctrinal areas and historical periods to develop a broader understanding of the court's role in foreign affairs.
- Critically assess legal and historical scholarship on the courts' role in foreign affairs.
- Respond constructively to classmates' questions, comments, and ideas.

Recommended: Prior coursework in international law, national security, or the federal courts is not required, but interest in such issues is recommended.

LAW 191 v02 Workers Rights & Globalization Seminar ([https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW 191 v02](https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20191%20v02))
J.D. Seminar (cross-listed) | 2-3 credit hours

The law of work is an increasingly important aspect of the global economy. Knowledge of this subject is useful in representing companies, unions, employees, governments and non-governmental organizations. Themes developed in the course also are central to understanding the relationship between law and globalization more broadly. We will study hard and soft law in the various forms in which it operates trans-nationally, including domestic law with foreign effects; public and private international law, such as human rights and trade law; and private codes of corporate social responsibility. The International Labor Organization (ILO), which is a touchstone in the course, is an especially interesting institutional case study. It is the world's oldest international organization, with 180 member countries giving it near-universal representativeness, and its inclusion of governing roles for civil society groups – unions and employer associations – makes it unique among international institutions. Attention will be given to subordination of documented and undocumented migrants, women, and child laborers.

Note: This seminar requires a paper. J.D. students must register for the 3 credit section of the seminar if they wish to write a paper fulfilling the Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement. The paper requirements of the 2 credit section will not fulfill the J.D. Upperclass Legal Writing Requirement.