

Survey of International Human Rights Law
Law 7939-42
Spring 2012

The course is a survey course in international human rights law, which will provide an introduction to the basic principles of international human rights and the legal institutions that operate in this area. The course will formally begin on Wednesday, January 11th, but there are assignments to be completed before class begins. (See below: Personal biography (Blog) and entries to history time line (Discussions).)

The course has been developed by Professor Talbot D'Alemberte, and Dr. Mark Ellis, a lawyer and economist, who is the Executive Director of the International Bar Association. Further information about them is available on the Blackboard link "Faculty Information."

In addition to the FSU students enrolled in the course, there are also students who have been selected by the International Bar Association from members of its Law Student Committee who applied to the IBA. Be sure and review the personal statements of your fellow students to get an idea of the diversity of the group.

We suggest the following, to be done before the first class:

1. **Review** welcome videos including explanation of technology.
2. **Syllabus.** You may first want to turn your attention to the syllabus with its recommended reading lists. This can be reached by clicking on the "**Syllabus**" button on the Home page. It will be very helpful for you to read from that list before the beginning of class. Most of the course material is available online.

3. **Course Materials.** After getting familiar with the Blackboard site and the Syllabus, you should turn to the Course Materials. There, you will find a link to instructions for what you should do before the course begins.
 - a. **Biographical Sketch.** Note that this includes an assignment for you to post a short biographical sketch so that other students in this course will know something of your background and your interest in international human rights law. This bio site is found by clicking on the "**Blog**" button. I posed a sample biographical sketch on the site to give you some guidance.
 - b. **Timeline on History of Human Rights.** Next, you should turn to the Course Materials link and look at the assignment to be completed before the first class. Most important is the **Wiki exercise** that will allow all students to contribute to the history of international human rights law. This site is accessible by clicking on the "**Discussions**" button. Professor D'Alemberte has placed a short entry on Magna Carta to give you some guidance on what this should look like. You are not limited to a single entry in this exercise.
4. **Provide** Lynn Peacock (lpeacock@fsu.edu) with your email address and your Skype address. If you have not signed up for Skype, it is free.

Of course, we will not be able to include everything that might fit into such a time line but we hope that, by gathering together the entries from all students, we will have a good general outline.

Even before the course has formally begun, I am always delighted with the participation and the interaction between students.

Sandy