

SPST671

Course Summary

Course : SPST671 **Title :** Space Law

Length of Course : 8 **Faculty :**

Prerequisites : SPST500, SPST501 **Credit Hours :** 3

Description

Course Description:

This course examines space law from its origins at the commencement of space exploration to current day activities, including civilian, commercial and military/governmental issues/rulings. The Outer Space Treaty, Registration Convention, Rescue and Return Agreement, Liability Convention, and the Moon Treaty will be covered in detail, as will several other past, standing and pending legal works.

Course Scope:

SPST 671 covers the basic international and domestic legal principles and issues that arise in Space Law from the formal beginning of the space age in 1957 to the present. While many of the legal principles involved in space law come from other common areas of the law, such as contracts, torts, real estate law and aviation law, the student of space law must be able to apply these legal principles to the space industry as a whole and anticipate new legal issues that will arise in the future dealing with the space industry, such as advanced technology and telecommunication issues dealing with satellites, private property rights, sovereignty and international cooperation questions, and basic privacy concerns. The scope of the course is designed for the graduate student to not only provide him or her a basic foundation in the legal principles and issues involved in Domestic and International Space Law, but to explore how the legal issues of space interact with space policy concerns from both a civilian and military perspective.

Objectives

Course Objectives: At the conclusion of the course, students will be able to:

CO-1 Appraise the International Space Law principles laid out in treaties and international common law.

CO-2 Appraise the Domestic Space Law Issues found in the U.S. Constitutional and Federal Statutory and Regulatory Law.

CO-3 Critique the core Domestic Space Law issues that deal with telecommunications, trade, and private commercial activities.

CO-4 Appraise the key organizations and players involved in International and Domestic Space Law.

CO-5 Compare and contrast how International and Space Law issues interact with Space Policy concerns from both a civilian and military perspective.

CO-6 Assess current and future Space Law issues and concerns from both an international and domestic legal perspective.

CO-7 Compose an original, graduate level paper in this field; and support the statements and conclusion(s) with properly documented evidence.

Outline

Week 1: Introduction to Space Law

Primary Lesson Subject

Introduction to Space Law

Admin Info

Welcome/Introduction AND

First Discussion

Week 2: Treaties Governing Activity in Outer Space

Primary Lesson Subject

Space Law Treaties and Boundaries of Space

Admin Info

Second Discussion

Writing Assignment #1

Research Paper topic due

Week 3: Treaties Governing Activity cont.

Primary Lesson Subject

Treaties continued

Admin Info

Third Discussion

Week 4: Weapons in Space

Primary Lesson Subject

Weapons in Space

Admin Info

Fourth Discussion

Week 5: Environmental Issues in Space Law

Primary Lesson Subject

Environmental Issues

Admin Info

Fifth Discussion

Writing Assignment #2

Week 6: Legal Issues Preserving Space for Peaceful Purposes

Primary Lesson Subject

Preserving Space for Peaceful Purposes

Admin Info

Sixth Discussion

Research Paper due

Week 7: Case Studies

Primary Lesson Subject

US Policies and Laws, cases

Admin Info

Seventh Discussion

Week 8: Culmination of Space Studies

Primary Lesson Subject

Admin Info

Presentation Assignment due

Upload presentation to discussions

Evaluation

Grading:

Name	Grade %
Additional Assignments	3.00 %
Discussion Introduction	3.00 %
Discussions	47.00 %
Week One: Let's Get to Know Space Law	6.71 %
Week Two: Early Treaties Governing Activity in Outer Space	6.71 %
Week Three: Updated Outer Space Treaty	6.71 %
Week Four: Development and Defense	6.71 %
Week Five: Environmental Issues in Space	6.71 %
Week Six: Legal Issues with Preserving Spcae for Peaceful Purposes	6.71 %
Week Seven: Discussion	6.71 %
Writing Assignments	20.00 %
Writing Assignment #1 (Due End of Week #2)	10.00 %
Writing Assignment #2 (Due End of Week #5)	10.00 %
Presentation Assignment	10.00 %
Presentation Assignment (Due End of Week #8)	10.00 %
Research Paper	20.00 %
Research Paper Proposal (Due end of Week #2)	5.00 %
Research Paper (Due End of Week #6)	15.00 %

Materials

Book Title: Various resources from the APUS Library & the Open Web are used. Links provided inside the classroom in the Content section.

Author: No Author Specified

Publication Info:

ISBN: N/A

Course Guidelines

Writing Expectations

All written submissions should be submitted in a font and page set-up that is readable and neat. They should use correct grammar and checked for spelling and other errors prior to submission. Specific details are provided in the assignment section as assignment formats vary. Uploaded documents in the assignment section should be in word (.doc, .docx) format. Faculty may require assignments be submitted to Turnitin.com. Turnitin.com will automatically analyze a paper and report instances of potential plagiarism or overuse of quotes for the student to edit before submitting it for a grade. The expectation is that the writing will be in your words after analysis of the sources.

Citation and Reference Style

The central function of legal citation is to allow the reader to efficiently locate the cited source. All courses in the Legal Studies program require that any narrative essay or composition format follow the legal citation guidelines set forth in The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation. Do not purchase The Bluebook, as it is available at the [APUS library](#).

Late Assignments

The University encourages all work to be completed according to the course schedule. The University Late Work Policy can be found in the Student Handbook [here](#).

Deductions

Late discussion posts, assignments, and exams may be penalized five (5) points per day.

Netiquette

Online universities promote the advancement of knowledge through positive and constructive debate – both inside and outside the classroom. Discussions on the Internet, however, can occasionally degenerate into needless insults and “flaming.” Such activity and the loss of good manners are not acceptable in a university setting – basic academic rules of good behavior and proper “Netiquette” must persist. Remember that you are in a place for the rewards and excitement of learning which does not include descent to personal attacks or student attempts to stifle the Discussion of others.

Humor Note: Despite the best of intentions, jokes and especially satire can easily get lost or taken seriously. If you feel the need for humor, you may wish to add “emojicons” to help alert your readers: ;-), :))

Disclaimer Statement

Course content may vary from the outline to meet the needs of this particular group.

Online Library

The Online Library is available to enrolled students and faculty from inside the electronic campus. This is your starting point for access to online books, subscription periodicals, and Web resources that are designed to support your classes and generally not available through search engines on the open Web. In addition, the Online Library provides access to special learning resources, which the University has contracted to assist with your studies. Questions can be directed to librarian@apus.edu.

Charles Town Library and Inter Library Loan: The University maintains a special library with a limited number of supporting volumes, collection of our professors' publication, and services to search and borrow research books and articles from other libraries.

Electronic Books: You can use the online library to uncover and download over 50,000 titles, which have been scanned and made available in electronic format.

Electronic Journals: The University provides access to over 12,000 journals, which are available in electronic form and only through limited subscription services.

Tutor.com: AMU and APU Civilian & Coast Guard students are eligible for 10 free hours of tutoring provided by APUS. [Tutor.com](https://www.tutor.com) connects you with a professional tutor online 24/7 to provide help with assignments, studying, test prep, resume writing, and more. Tutor.com is tutoring the way it was meant to be. You get expert tutoring whenever you need help, and you work one-to-one with your tutor in your online classroom on your specific problem until it is done.

Legal Studies Program Guide: This should be your starting point as you explore the resources available for the [Legal Studies Program!](#)

University Policies

[Student Handbook](#)

- [Drop/Withdrawal policy](#)
- [Extension Requests](#)
- [Academic Probation](#)
- [Appeals](#)
- [Disability Accommodations](#)

The mission of American Public University System is to provide high quality higher education with emphasis on educating the nation's military and public service communities by offering respected, relevant, accessible, affordable, and student-focused online programs that prepare students for service and leadership in a diverse, global society.