

FACULTY OF LAW, UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
2011-12 COURSE REGISTRATION – PRELIMINARY COURSE INFORMATION¹

COURSE	Law 377 International Arbitration
UNIT VALUE	1.5 Units (3 hours of instruction per week)
INSTRUCTOR	Andrew Newcombe
TERM OFFERED	Spring 2012
CLASS TIMES	See Schedule
PREREQUISITES/CO-REQUISITES	None

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course introduces students to international arbitration, including arbitral agreements, applicable law, arbitral procedures and arbitrations involving state parties. The course focuses on the resolution of foreign investment disputes through international arbitration. The international legal framework governing foreign investment consists of a vast network of over 2800 international investment agreements (IIAs) supplemented by the general rules of international law. IIAs combine treaty-based standards of promotion and protection for foreign investment with an investor-state arbitration mechanism that allows foreign investors to enforce treaty standards. There has been a surge of investment treaty arbitrations in the past 20 years. International investment law has emerged as a dynamic area of international law and dispute resolution, ripe with controversies over the balance between state sovereignty and investment protection, the decentralized system of international investment law, the scope of IIA protections, the process of investor-state arbitration and the rights and obligations of international investors.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this course are for students to:

- learn the basic legal framework in which international arbitration operates and how the system operates from a practical perspective;
- learn about the international legal regime governing foreign investment;
- develop research and legal skills in the area of international arbitration and investment law; and
- study and critically evaluate the complex intersections between domestic regulatory authority and international investment law and arbitration.

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The class will be run as a seminar, with student presentations and discussion.

METHODS OF EVALUATION

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| 1. | Award/decision presentation | 20% |
| 2. | Research paper presentation | 10% |
| 3. | 6000 to 6500 word research paper | 70% |

Students may write their major paper in this course with the instructor's permission.

March 9, 2011

¹ The information in this document is provided for course registration purposes only and is **subject to change**. More detailed course information about course content and evaluation will be provided upon the commencement of the course. Students seeking additional information about the course prior to its commencement may contact the instructor or, if no instructor is listed, the Manager of Academic Administration and Student Services (lawmaass@uvic.ca).