SYLLABUS
International and Foreign Legal Research Seminar 6867
Spring Semester 2012
Revised 4/9/12

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Office hours: Stop by anytime, or see me at the Reference Office (try Thursdays 4-8 p.m.). I encourage you to email, phone me, or see me rather than let yourself get stuck on an ambiguous or frustrating question.

Text: *International and Foreign Legal Research: A Coursebook* (2d ed., forthcoming 2012). My co-author and I recently finished the draft second edition and for this class we will be using that draft, which will be on TWEN for you to use.

The syllabus is subject to change (depending, in part, on the results of the interest survey).

Jan. 23: Introduction to seminar; basic concepts; types of sources; using MnCat, other catalogs, and periodical indexes to find international and foreign legal information. Interest survey (what do you know and what do you want to know?).

**What’s due:** Nothing.

**Read:** Chapters 1 & 4.

Jan. 30: Researching Public International Law (PIL). Treaties.

**What’s due:** Basic searching exercise.

**Read:** Chapter 6.

Feb. 6: Public International Law – non-treaty sources (customary law, generally-recognized principles, judicial decisions, and teachings of publicists).

**What’s due:** Treaty exercise.

**Read:** Chapter 7.

Feb. 13: Internet research limitations, starting points.

**What’s due:** Second PIL exercise.

**Read:** Chapter 3, everything but VI. Resource & Citation Management Tools.

Feb. 20—No class: Law School winter break.

Feb. 27: Internet research again—more strategies; information quality and bias. Also: Westlaw and Lexis research.

**What’s due:** Internet searching exercise.

**Read:** Nothing.

Mar. 5: Researching foreign law.
What’s due: Westlaw and Lexis exercise.

Mar. 12—No class. Law School spring break.

What’s due: Foreign law exercise.
Read: Chapters 10 & 11.

Mar. 26: Researching the law of intergovernmental organizations Part 2: European Union.
What’s due: UN/IGO exercise.
Read: Chapter 12.

Apr. 2: Researching international and foreign human rights law.
What’s due: EU exercise.
Read: Chapter 15 (and Chapter 14 if you are feeling masochistic).

Apr. 9: Researching international intellectual property (IP) law.
What’s due: Human rights exercise.
Read: Chapter 17.

Apr. 16: Researching private international law (international business transactions, dispute resolution).
What’s due: IP exercise.
Read: Chapter 20, maybe also Chapter 21 if you’re interested in international arbitration or to complete the exercise.

Apr. 23: Researching international trade.
What’s due: Private International Law exercise.
Read: Chapter 20.

Apr. 25 [Monday classes meeting on Wednesday]
What’s due: Nothing.
Last class. I will be handing back the Private International Law exercise from Monday. Short review.