**Space Law**

Class # 22560

Fall 2024

University of Florida Levin College of Law

**Course Information**

1 Credit

Aug. 12 (M) 9:00am-12:00pm

Aug. 13-14 (T/W) 1:00pm-4:00pm

Aug. 15 (Th) 9:00am-12:00pm

Aug. 16 (F) 9:00am-11:00am

**Contact Information**

Trevor Tezel

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**Course Description and Learning Objectives**

This course will provide an overview of core topics in the study of space law from both

domestic and international law perspectives. Students will gain an understanding of legal

theories underlying space law and their application in a growing commercial space market.

Topics will include jurisdiction, liability, and insurance of space objects and astronauts;

state regulation of commercial space activities (e.g. satellites, GPS); environmental space law

and space resource utilization; and the law of armed conflict in outer space.

After completing this course, students should be able to:

* Analyze the treaties, conventions, and underlying legal principles that structure relations between spacefaring actors.
* Discuss the U.S. role in defining and redefining the “rules of the road” in space exploration and resource utilization.
* Understand how the growing space economy has led to new applications of existing bodies of law.
* Identify emerging problems associated with increasing space activity and the shortcomings of current legal regimes.

**Course Materials**

The textbook for this course is *International Space Law and Space Laws of the United States*;

by Steve Mirmina and Caryn Schenewerk. (You will notice that the bulk of the course readings

are frontloaded.)

**Course Website**

http://elearning.ufl.edu/ Students are responsible for reviewing the Canvas page for course

updates.

**Office Hours**

Scheduled office hours will occur the hour preceding class on Wednesday (Aug. 14) from noon-

1:00pm and the hour following class on Thursday (Aug. 15) from noon until 1:00pm. Aside

from these listed office hours, I will arrange to be available by appointment. I encourage you to

call or email me if you are having difficulties with, or simply want to clarify your understanding

of, any of the materials covered in the reading or in class. My contact information is at the top of

this syllabus.

**ABA Out-Of-Class Hours Requirements**

ABA Standard 310 requires that students devote 120 minutes to out-of-class preparation for every “classroom hour” of in-class instruction.

**Attendance**

This is a compressed course and attendance is mandatory. Absences may negatively impact your grade. University attendance policy may be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

**Grading**

Your final grade will be based on an end-of-course paper. Your paper will focus on a topic we covered in class. You are welcome to meet with me to discuss your paper topic ahead of time. The paper should be no longer than 10 pages, double-spaced, 12-point font. The paper is due by August 23, 2024 at 11:59pm EST.

Information on current UF grading policies may be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>.

The law school grading policy, including grade distribution policy, is available at <https://www.law.ufl.edu/life-at-uf-law/office-of-student-affairs/current-students/academic-policies#3>

**University Policy on Academic Misconduct**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge, which states: “We, the members of the University

of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor

and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the

University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: ‘On my honor, I have

neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.’” The Honor Code

(https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/students/student-conduct-code/) specifies a number of behaviors that

are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report

any condition that facilities academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any

questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

**University Policy on Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by

completing online evaluations at <https://evaluations.ufl.edu>. Evaluations typically are open

during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when

they are open.

**Accommodations**

Students requesting accommodation for disabilities should register first with the Disability Resource Center (<https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>). The Center will provide documentation to the student who then must provide this documentation to the instructor when requesting an accommodation. You must submit this documentation prior to submitting assignments. Because accommodations are not retroactive, students should contact the Disability Resource Center as soon as possible in the semester for which they are seeking accommodation.

**Getting Help**

For technical difficulties with E-learning in Canvas, please contact the UF Help Desk at:

* [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu)
* (352) 392-HELP
* <http://elearning.ufl.edu/> (See “Message Us” at the top)

Other resources are available at <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/getting-help> for counseling and

wellness, disability resources, student complaints, and library help desk support.

**UF Levin College of Law Standard Syllabus Policies**

Other information about UF Levin College of Law policies, including compliance with the UF Honor Code, Grading, Accommodations, Class Recordings, and Course Evaluations can be found at this link: https://ufl.instructure.com/courses/427635/files/74674656?wrap=1.

**Course Schedule Detail**

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| **Class Date** | **Topic** | **Reading Assignments** |
| 08/12/24 | International space law | Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4 |
| 08/13/24 | NASA, the FAA, and the commercial space regulatory regime | Chapters 6 and 7 |
| 08/14/24 | DOD and national security issues in outer space | Chapters 10 and 13  Speaker: TBA |
| 08/15/24 | Remote sensing, space commerce, and space weather  Environmental issues in outer space | Chapters 8 and 12  Speaker: Michelle L.D. Hanlon – co-founder, president and CEO of For All Moonkind; Exec. Director of the Center for Air and Space Law at the University of Missisippi School of Law. |
| 08/16/24 | Commercial space communications | Chapter 9  Speaker: Steven Mirmina – Senior Attorney, NASA Office of the General Counsel; Adjunct Professor of Law, Georgetown University. |