



Sturm College of Law
UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

April 8, 2026

Dear Students,

As you prepare for registration this week, I wanted to take a moment to highlight the course offerings and faculty for the [International Legal Studies Program](#) here at the Sturm College of Law. We have updated the bulletin for the program certificate and have also created the attached list of elective courses for the program (beyond the core International Law course requirement). These courses are all ones we have offered recently and/or are planning to offer again this year or in the near future. However, we're unable to offer every course every year. If you have questions about a specific course, feel free to reach out and I can provide more information about the course and when it can be expected to be offered again.

This email has been sent to all students who have taken a course in this area recently but are not graduating this May. If you want to be removed from future emails (or know someone who would like to receive them), please contact Nick Williams at: nicholas.williams@du.edu

If you have questions about the program or the certificate, please reach out to me.

Thank you,

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Kevin Lynch

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For Fall 2026, the following courses are planned (more detailed info is below):

- **Global Climate Change Law & Policy** (online asynchronous course) – Prof. Disney Bruckner
- **Immigration Law & Policy Clinic** – Profs. Jordan & Hathaway
- **International Criminal Law Practicum** – Prof. Akerson
- **International Business Transactions** (part-time weekend course) – Prof. Cai
- **International Human Rights Law** – Prof. Loper
- **International Law** (part-time weekend course) – Prof. Cai
- **Vis Moot** preparation courses
 - **International Commercial Arbitration** – Prof. Wells
 - **International Sales** – Prof. Wells
- **International Practice & Procedure** – **Jessup** course – Profs. Matthews & Klein

Spring 2027 courses are not finalized yet, so you can expect additional courses to be offered. However, the following courses and moot courts are already confirmed:

- **Comparative Law** - Prof. Goel
- **Immigration Law & Policy Clinic** – Profs. Jordan & Hathaway
- **International and Comparative Equality Law** – Prof. Loper
- **International Criminal Law Practicum** – Prof. Akerson
- **Mining Law** – Dean Wiersema
- **The Spanish Speaking Lawyer: Introductory Legal Skills and Vocabulary in Spanish** – Prof. Pena
- [Vis moot court](#) competition and related course
- [Jessup moot court](#) competition and related course

We have a strong group of dedicated and experienced faculty who teach as part of our International Legal Studies Program. You can read more about them on their faculty pages.

Faculty teaching International Legal Studies Courses in Fall 2026:

- [Phoenix Cai](#)
- [Kelley Loper](#)
- [Elizabeth Jordan](#)
- [John Hathaway](#)
- [David Akerson](#)
- [Kristi Disney Bruckner](#)
- [Megan Mathews](#)
- [Todd Wells](#)

Several faculty are not teaching ILSP courses in Fall 2026, but will teach in Spring 2027 or future semesters, or have significant experience and/or research interests in the field of International Legal Studies:

- [J. Robert Brown, Jr.](#)
- [K.K. DuVivier](#)
- [Rashmi Goel](#)
- [Annecoos Wiersema](#) – in addition to her teaching and research interests in the field of International Legal Studies, she is the Associate Dean of Graduate and International Legal Programs at the Sturm College of Law
- [Scott Johns](#)
- [Louise Seiler](#)
- [Don Smith](#)
- Leticia Pena is a former attorney at the National Labor Relations Board and an adjunct faculty member at the Sturm College of Law.

Details on course offerings for Fall 2026 (latest info always on the registrar's schedule [website](#)):

LAWS 4259 Global Climate Change Law & Policy - Online (3 Credits) - Kristi Disney Bruckner

As concern over the threat of global climate change spreads, action on greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) is increasingly commanding attention. This seminar consists of supervised research and writing on the issue of climate change and the legal and policy responses. The course focuses on the effects of climate change on development and the environment in industrialized and developing countries and the laws in the international, regional and domestic arenas that address the problem.

LAWS 4825/4826 Immigration Law and Policy Clinic & Seminar (9 Credits) - Elizabeth Jordan/Jake Hathaway

The Immigration Law and Policy Clinic (ILPC) seminar provides timely instruction in topics relevant to student attorneys appearing in immigration court representing indigent, detained clients in bond and removal proceedings. In seminar, students will learn lawyering skills such as interviewing, client counseling, fact investigation, legal research and writing, oral advocacy, negotiation, policy advocacy, and preparation for, and advocacy in, contested hearings. Some classes may address issues that have not yet arisen in their clinic cases, with the goal of exposing students to different lawyering methods and advocacy tools. Through the ILPC seminar classes and related fieldwork, students will have opportunities to explore systemic problems in the immigration enforcement system—particularly where immigration and criminal enforcement are conflated and entwined—such as racial and economic bias, law enforcement accountability, hyperincarceration, and access to justice. This course does not meet the Upper Level Writing (ULW) requirement. Credit Hours: 4 in-class credits (Fall) / 2 in-class credits (Spring).

For the fieldwork component of the Immigration Law and Policy Clinic (ILPC), student attorneys appear in immigration court representing indigent, detained clients in bond and/or removal proceedings. Students may also provide consultations with student counsel in the Criminal Defense Clinic on the immigration consequences facing CDC clients. There may be additional opportunities for advocacy in post-conviction and/or federal habeas litigation, and in matters in which the ILPC will provide counsel and legal assistance to non-profit advocacy organizations pursuing policy or legislative reform or other non-litigation (or possibly litigation) matters. Throughout their fieldwork, student attorneys apply knowledge gained through the ILPC seminar by practicing lawyering skills such as interviewing, client counseling, fact investigation, legal research and writing, oral advocacy, negotiation, policy advocacy, and preparation for, and advocacy in, contested hearings. Through the ILPC fieldwork, students will have opportunities to explore systemic problems in the immigration enforcement system—particularly where immigration and criminal enforcement are conflated and entwined—such as racial and economic bias, law enforcement accountability, hyperincarceration, and access to justice. Credit Hours: 5 out-of-class credits (Fall term) / 2 to 7 out-of-class credits (Spring term) ULW: This course does not automatically meet the Upper Level Writing (ULW) requirement. Students who, in the course of their fieldwork, complete written work sufficient to meet the ULW requirement may obtain certification from their instructor.

LAWS 4303 International Criminal Law Practicum (3 Credits) - David Akerson

In this course, the class collectively analyzes the genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity charges against an accused in a major international tribunal prosecution. Each student is assigned witnesses in the case and is expected to analyze that testimony and record their work in the case database using Casemap software meticulously following previously established protocols. The work involves the students learning the nature of the conflict generally, thoroughly learning the indictment against Taylor, getting up to speed on the law of war crimes and crimes against humanity, and finally assessing the witness testimony for relevant facts and attributing those facts to the legal outline in the case.

LAWS 4315 International Business Transactions - PT (3 Credits) - Phoenix Cai

This course provides students with a general overview of international business transactions. The course examines the legal framework of international sales transactions including the commercial terms of the sales agreements, shipping contracts, insurance, financing arrangements and customs documentation. The course also examines the foreign direct investment transaction, international franchise and distribution agreements. The regulation of international business is reviewed, with special attention to the World Trade Organization agreements and regional trade areas.

LAWS 4319 International Human Rights Law (3 Credits) - Kelley Loper

This seminar provides a general overview of international human rights law and the global and regional mechanisms designed to enforce states' compliance with their international obligations. It will cover the sources of international human rights law, the United Nations human rights treaty and charter-based bodies, and key regional human rights regimes including the African, European, and Inter-American human rights systems. During the second half of the semester, the course will explore a selection of current human rights issues and particular economic, social, cultural, civil and political rights set out in core multilateral treaties. The course will also consider debates about the effectiveness of international human rights law and its ability to prevent and remedy violations of human rights.

LAWS 4320 International Law - PT (3 Credits) - Phoenix Cai

International Law is the foundational course in public law, treaties, systems, and policies that bind nations into a world community of law. The class places special emphasis on the origins of international law; statehood; international responsibility and claims; use of force; and human rights.

LAWS 4341 International Commercial Arbitration (3 Credits) - Todd Wells

This course uses the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Competition to give students practical skills-based training in the most important aspects of international commercial arbitration and international sales law. The Vis Moot is based on a problem governed by the U.N. Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (the "CISG").

LAWS 4346 International Sales (3 Credits) - Todd Wells

This course will examine the laws governing the international sale of goods, including the Unidroit Principles, the relevant rules adopted by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, the Convention on the International Sale of Goods (CISG), and the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Modern International Sale Contract. Special emphasis shall be given to the CISG as well as to comparing the law of international sale of goods with United States contract law. Issues such as international payments methods, letters of credit, customs clearing procedures, and dispute resolution will also be discussed. Two large topics - (1) the CISG and (2) letters of credit and other means of financing cross-border transactions - comprise the bulk of the course.

LAWS 4373 International Practice & Procedure/Jessup (3 Credits) - Megan Matthews/Trevor Klein

This course is only open to members of the current Jessup Team and focuses upon the practice and procedure before the International Court of Justice. Students will examine the ICJ's history, organization, competence, and role as the primary judicial organ of the United Nations and permanent institution for the pacific settlement of disputes between States. The course will be split between both theory and practice, wherein students will study the major landmark cases of the ICJ affecting the practice of international law, and be exposed to the rules of procedure and style of practice before the ICJ through the use of a hypothetical contentious case between two States. This course satisfies the Upper Level Writing requirement (ULW).