1. **Course Description and Objectives**

This is an asynchronous online course focusing on international criminal law. This course will contain four sections.

First, we will begin the semester with a general introduction to the historical evolution of international criminal law over time. This will include a discussion of the development of the four primary crimes of “international concern” – war crimes, crimes of aggression, crimes against humanity, and genocide. This discussion will also include a description of the international tribunals established to prosecute these crimes of international concern, including the Nuremberg Tribunal and the International Criminal Court in The Hague. This introductory portion of the course will also focus on fundamental issues related to international criminal law, such as sources of international law, what crimes are international, and how is jurisdiction established over international crimes.

Second, we will focus on a number of U.S. domestic statutes that criminalize international conduct. These will include laws covering foreign bribery, antitrust and securities violations, narcotics and money laundering, piracy, terrorism, torture, and human trafficking.

Third, we will examine the application of the U.S. Constitution and U.S. rules of criminal procedure to international criminal cases. This will include examination of the 4th, 5th, and 6th Amendments, international evidence gathering tools, extradition, and abduction (renditions).

Fourth, towards the end of the semester, we will examine more closely the evolution of international tribunals to prosecute crimes of “international concern” and learn more about the elements
of these four fundamental international crimes.

The materials covered in this course will be vital to those planning to undertake any type of criminal law career, whether with a domestic or international focus. As you will see as we move through the materials, criminal law and criminal prosecutions have become globalized in the last decade and almost any criminal law career will now include cases with international components.

By the end of the course, students should be able to do the following:

- Understand what the term “international criminal law” encompasses, along with understanding the sources of international law, what crimes are international, and how jurisdiction is established over international crimes.
- Have a sophisticated understanding of a host of U.S. criminal laws that apply internationally.
- Have a sophisticated understanding of how U.S. criminal procedure applies to international criminal investigations and prosecutions.
- Have a sophisticated understanding of the historical development of the four core crimes of international concern – war crimes, crime of aggression, crimes against humanity, and genocide.
- Have a sophisticated understanding of the historical development of tribunals to prosecute the four core crimes of international concern, including the permanent International Criminal Court in The Hague.

2. Class Time and Room

This is an asynchronous online course occurring from Monday, August 22, through Friday, December 2, 2016. Therefore, we will meet online, rather than in a classroom. You will complete all assignments for the course using TWEN on a weekly basis. While you must participate in the course and complete all course work on a weekly basis, you may choose the time most convenient to work on the course materials during each week. The course’s online week begins on Monday and ends on Sunday. Due dates for readings and assignments are expressed in a day and hour (Central Time). Students are responsible for adjusting those due dates to their particular time zone.

3. Contact Information

a. General. My office is Room 250. Telephone number is 618-453-8797. My mobile telephone number is 321-298-0269. E-mail address is ldervan@law.siu.edu.

b. Office Hours. My scheduled office hours are as follows: Mondays 10:30am – 12:30pm (except when there is a scheduling conflict, such as a faculty meeting). You can also meet with me outside these times, so please feel free to stop by my office if the door is open. You can also email, text, or call me to schedule a time to meet. We can meet in person, via telephone, or via Skype. My Skype address is professor.dervan.

c. Electronic Communication. Check your e-mail daily. I will use your SIU e-mail address to send messages pertaining to class. I also often send messages through the TWEN page, so ensure your email is properly linked to your registration for our TWEN page.
4. Course Materials


Other course materials can be found on the TWEN page associated with this course. You are responsible for checking the TWEN page and to read any assigned materials posted to the TWEN page.

If you feel you would like a supplemental book to assist you with the course, I recommend *Understanding International Criminal Law* (Third Edition) by Ellen S. Podgor and Roger S. Clark (LexisNexis). This text tracks our primary text closely. This is purely optional and there will be no assigned readings from this supplemental book.

5. Technical Requirements

You will need the following to participate in this course:

- computer;
- reliable internet connection;
- computer microphone; and
- some way to make and post a simple video (e.g., using a smart phone or a webcam).

You will participate in this course using TWEN.

6. Grading and Evaluation

This course will be graded as follows:

a. **Final Examination** (50%). The final examination will be a comprehensive take home exam distributed online. I will provide more details about the final later in the semester. **The final exam will be distributed on the final day of classes (Friday, December 2, 2016) and will be due on Monday, December 12, 2016 by 5:00pm (Central Time).**

b. **Weekly Assignments** (50%). To successfully complete the course, students must follow the course outline and engage and participate in the activities outlined in each weekly module in TWEN. Students must keep pace with the class and complete any readings and assignments by the designated due date. There will be weekly assignments as part of this course, such as quizzes, think pieces, short answer questions or other materials designed to assist you in understanding the materials and in my assessing of your progress in the course. Some of these assignments will be graded on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis. Others will be given a numeric grade. I will alert you in advance as to how each assignment is graded. Your cumulative grade from these various assignments will constitute 50% of your final grade. Weekly assignments must be turned in by the posted due date. Each 24 hour period during which the weekly assignment is not turned in will result in a deduction of 20% from the potential grade for that assignment. Once five 24 hour periods have passed, you will receive a 0 for that assignment.
7. Workload Expectations

The American Bar Association standards for accrediting law schools contain a formula for calculating the amount of work that constitutes one credit hour. According to ABA Standard 310(b)(1), “a “credit hour” is an amount of work that reasonably approximates: (1) not less than one hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction and two hours of out-of-class student work per week for fifteen weeks, or the equivalent amount of work over a different amount of time.” This is a 3-credit hour asynchronous course. Therefore, the above described hours will occur through weekly online modules. These modules will include 150 minutes of classroom/direct faculty style instruction through our online delivery system (TWEN). The amount of assigned reading and additional out of class preparation/work for each weekly module should take you about an additional 6 hours. All told, applying the ABA standard to the number of credits offered for this class, you should plan on spending a total of 9 hours per week on course-related work.

8. Attendance Policy

As an asynchronous online course, it is imperative that you keep up with the weekly materials. The weekly course materials will be posted in advance and will alert you to when materials are due. Weekly assignments must be turned in by the posted due date. Each 24 hour period during which the weekly assignment is not turned in will result in a deduction of 20% from the potential grade for that assignment. Once five 24 hour periods have passed, you will receive a 0 for that assignment. If you receive a 0 on more than 3 weekly assignments due to a failure to submit the assignment in a timely manner (as described in the above section), you will be automatically withdrawn from the course. See School of Law Rules III.5(e)-(f).

Attendance will also be taken each week by signing the attendance sheet posted to TWEN under “Sign-Up Sheets.” Simply go to the attendance sheet for the appropriate week and use the drop down box to sign your name to one of the available slots. By signing a week’s attendance sheet, you are certifying that you have completed all of the assignments for the week (including all readings, videos etc.) and have turned in any projects that are due that week (such as thought papers, quizzes etc.). The attendance sheet must be signed by the deadline for that week’s assignment. A failure to sign the attendance sheet for more than 3 weeks will result in an automatic withdrawal from the course.

9. Classroom Etiquette

Please be courteous to your fellow students during online classroom discussions and during other interactions.

10. Course Schedule

I will post the course schedule and materials in advance of the week they are due. This is a new course and, therefore, I will be working to prepare materials throughout the semester. While I will work to get materials posted as far in advance as possible, please be patient as I work to make this new course as beneficial as possible for you.
11. **S/U Grading**

The grades of students who have elected to take this course with S/U grading will be converted by the Registrar according to the following scale: 2.1 or greater = Satisfactory; below 2.1 = Unsatisfactory. Only students who receive a Satisfactory grade will earn academic credit for the course.”

12. **Students with Disabilities**

Disability Support Services provides the required academic and programmatic support services to students with permanent and temporary disabilities. DSS provides centralized coordination and referral services. To utilize DSS services, students must come to the DSS to open cases. The process involves interviews, reviews of student-supplied documentation, and completion of Disability Accommodation Agreements. [http://disabilityservices.siu.edu/](http://disabilityservices.siu.edu/). Upon completion of a Disability Accommodation Agreement with DSS, students should bring the agreement to the School of Law Registrar’s Office to ensure the School of Law provides the proper classroom and examination accommodations.

13. **Video Recording of Class**

No classes will be recorded as this is an asynchronous online course.

14. **Saluki Cares**

The purpose of Saluki Cares is to develop, facilitate and coordinate a universitywide program of care and support for students in any type of distress—physical, emotional, financial, or personal. By working closely with faculty, staff, students and their families, SIU will continue to display a culture of care and demonstrate to our students and their families that they are an important part of the community. For Information on Saluki Cares: (618) 453-5714, or siucares@siu.edu, [http://salukicares.siu.edu/index.html](http://salukicares.siu.edu/index.html). At the School of Law, Assistant Dean Judi Ray is also available to help students access university resources. Her email is judiray@siu.edu, and her phone number is (618) 453-3135.

15. **Emergency Procedures**

Southern Illinois University Carbondale is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment for study and work. Because some health and safety circumstances are beyond our control, we ask that you become familiar with the SIUC Emergency Response Plan and Building Emergency Response Team (BERT) program. Emergency response information is available on posters in buildings on campus, available on the BERT’s website at [www.bert.siu.edu](http://www.bert.siu.edu), Department of Public Safety’s website [www.dps.siu.edu](http://www.dps.siu.edu) (disaster drop down) and in the Emergency Response Guidelines pamphlet. Know how to respond to each type of emergency.

Instructors will provide guidance and direction to students in the classroom in the event of an emergency affecting your location. **It is important that you follow these instructions and stay with**
your instructor during an evacuation or sheltering emergency. The BERT will provide assistance to your instructor in evacuating the building or sheltering within the facility.

16. Useful Websites

- Coalition for the International Criminal Court
- Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia
- Human Rights Watch
- International Committee of the Red Cross
- International Court of Justice
- International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia
- International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
- International Criminal Court
- Nuremburg IMT
- Nuremburg NMT
- Special Court for Sierra Leone
- Special Panels for Serious Crimes in East Timor
- Special Tribunal for Lebanon
- Special War Crimes Chamber in the Court of Bosnia & Herzegovina
- War Crimes Prosecution Watch