**Wayland Mission Statement**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused, and distinctively Christian environment for professional success, and service to God and humankind.

**Contact Information**

**Course**

: PUAD 5302 VC01 – International Legal Systems: A Comparative Study

**Campus**

: WBUonline

**Term/Session**

**:** Fall 1 2025

**Instructor**

**:** Dr. Laurie Bremer

**Office Phone Number**

**:** 210-401-1390

**WBU Email Address**

**:** laurie.bremer@wayland.wbu.edu

**Office Hours, Building, and Location**

**:** Office Hours 8 – 10 a.m. M; You may also email or telephone

**Class Meeting Time and Location**

**:** WBUonline

**Course Information**

**Catalog Description**

**:** Comparative analysis of international justice systems; the role of these justice agencies as part of societal response to crime; the knowledge base of justice systems; issues, problems, and trends.

**There is no prerequisite for this course.**

**Textbook Information**

**Required Textbook(s) and/or Required Materials**

**:** Philip L. Reichel, *Comparative Criminal Justice Systems: A Topical Approach* 7th Edition. ISBN- 13:9780134558981

*The textbook for this course is part of the* ***Wayland’s Automatic eBook*** *program. You will have access to an eBook and interactive learning material on the first day of class through your Blackboard course site. The cost of this Automatic eBook will be billed directly to your student account when you register for the course. You will be notified via email with access instructions and additional information. If you do not wish to participate in the Automatic eBook program, you will have the first 12 days of class to opt-out of the program (additional details will be outlined in your email instructions). For more information on the Automatic eBook program, visit the Wayland Bookstore* [*Automatic eBook FAQ*](https://bookstore.wbu.edu/site_inclusive.asp) *page.*

**Optional Materials**

**:** None

**Course Outcome Competencies**

**:** Upon completion of this course the student should be able to:

* Students will develop an understanding of the interrelationship between crime and punishment from an international and comparative perspective
* Students will be able to compare and contrast criminal justice systems in terms of the major legal traditions used across the world, e.g., common law, civil law, and international law
* Students will demonstrate knowledge of critical issues confronting global criminal justice systems as well as the international criminal justice system
* Students will be able to identify mechanisms to deal with issues of human rights violators and perpetrators of international crimes
* Students will be able to compare similarities and differences that occur in court structures and procedures in multiple countries as well as the international community

**Attendance Requirements**

WBUonline

Students are expected to participate in all required instructional activities in their courses. Online courses are no different in this regard; however, participation must be defined in a different manner. Student “attendance” in an online course is defined as active participation in the course as described in the course syllabus. Instructors in online courses are responsible for providing students with clear instructions for how they are required to participate in the course. Additionally, instructors are responsible for incorporating specific instructional activities within their course and will, at a minimum, have weekly mechanisms for documenting student participation. These mechanisms may include, but are not limited to, participating in a weekly discussion board, submitting/completing assignments in Blackboard, or communicating with the instructor. Students aware of necessary absences must inform the professor with as much advance notice as possible in order to make appropriate arrangements. Any student absent 25 percent or more of the online course, i.e., non-participatory during 2 or more weeks of an 8-week session, may receive an F for that course. Instructors may also file a Report of Unsatisfactory Progress for students with excessive non-participation. Any student who has not actively participated in an online class prior to the census date for any given session is considered a “no-show” and will be administratively withdrawn from the class without record. To be counted as actively participating, it is not sufficient to log in and view the course. The student must be submitting work as described in the course syllabus. Additional attendance and participation policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the university’s attendance policy.

**University Policies**

[Link to Statement on Academic Integrity , and reference one of the following in regard to how generative artificial intelligence (GAI) such as ChatGPT may or may not be used in this course:](https://www.wbu.edu/academics/writing-center/Academic%20Integrity%20Statement%20Pol%208.4.1%20Attch%20Oct%2020222.pdf)

1. No use of any generative AI tools permitted.
   1. Students are required to create and produce all work themselves or with assigned group members. Any work submitted that has used an AI generative tool like Chat GPT will be in immediate violation of the academic integrity policies for the course and WBU.
   2. All assignments must be fully created, designed, and prepared by the student(s).
   3. Any work that uses generative AI will be treated as plagiarism.

**Disability Statement**

**:** In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Disability Services Coordinator and Academic Coach serves as the coordinator of students with disabilities and must be contacted concerning accommodation requests (office (806) 291-1057. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

Accessibility issues with content in WBUonline courses or in Blackboard should be addressed to the WBU accessibility coordinator, Dr. Rick Hammer, [hammerr@wbu.edu](mailto:hammerr@wbu.edu) or call (806) 292-9150.

**Course Requirements and Grading Criteria**

1. **Reading Assignments:** Reading assignments are to be completed on time (i.e., by the Wednesday of the week they are scheduled for discussion). You should be prepared to participate in online discussions about the assigned reading.
2. **Discussion Boards:** There will be a discussion topic each week of class. All first posts must be done by Wednesday @ 11:59 p.m. CST of each week, and the remaining 2 posts must be in by Sunday at 11:59 p.m. CST each week (with exception of Week 8). No Discussion will take place when the week is over.

1. **Weekly Assignments:** In addition to weekly Discussion Boards, you will be required to submit a weekly written assignment. Each assignment will require you to use both your textbook and to conduct additional research.
2. **Weekly Journal Entries:** In addition to weekly Discussion Boards and Assignments, you will be required to submit a weekly written journal entry. Each journal will require you to use both your textbook and to conduct additional research.
3. **Exam:** You will not have a midterm. You will have a Final Exam, which will be comprehensive and will cover the text, PowerPoint lecture, weekly assignments, journals and DB topics. The Final is open book and open note.
4. **Research Project:**. You are required to submit a research paper on a pre-approved topic related to International Conflict Resolution. All papers must be 8-10 pages and must be submitted in APA format. Plagiarism shall result in disciplinary action. Late papers will receive lower grades.

### Method of determining course grade:

| 1. 8 Weekly Discussion Board Forums | 16 points |
| --- | --- |
| 2. 8 Weekly Assignments | 32 points |
| 3. 6 Weekly Journal Entries | 12 points |
| 4. Final Exam | 25 points |
| 5. Research Paper | 15 points |
|  | 100 points total (+3 for Required First Assignment) |

**The University has a standard grade scale:**

A = 90-100, B = 80-89, C = 70-79, D = 60-69, F= below 60, W = Withdrawal, WP = withdrew passing, WF = withdrew failing, I = incomplete. An incomplete may be given within the last two weeks of a long term, within the last week of an 8-week session, or within the last two days of a microterm to a student who is passing, but has not completed a term paper, examination, or other required work for reasons beyond the student’s control. A grade of “incomplete” is changed if the work required is completed prior to the last day of the next long 16-week term or 8-week session, unless the instructor designates an earlier date for completion.  If the work is not completed by the appropriate date, the I is converted to an F.

**Student Grade Appeals**

**:** Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs to the Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.

**Tentative Schedule**

| **Week** - **Central Standard Time** | **Assignments and Due Dates** |
| --- | --- |
| Week 1 | Chapter 1  Discussion Board 1: Due Wednesday @ 11:59 CST  Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Week 1 Assignment: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Journal Entry: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST |
| Week 2 | Chapter 2  Discussion Board 2: Due Wednesday @ 11:59 CST  Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Week 2 Assignment: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Journal Entry: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST |
| Week 3 | Chapters 3  Discussion Board 3: Due Wednesday @ 11:59 CST  Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Week 3 Assignment: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Journal Entry: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST |
| Week 4 | Chapters 4 & 5  Discussion Board 4: Due Wednesday @ 11:59 CST  Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Week 4 Assignment: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Journal Entry: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST |
| Week 5 | Chapters 6 & 7  Discussion Board 5: Due Wednesday @ 11:59 CST  Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Week 5 Assignment: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Journal Entry: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST |
| Week 6 | Chapter 8  Discussion Board 6: Due Wednesday @ 11:59 CST  Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Week 6 Assignment: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  ***Research Paper***: Due Sunday @ 11:59p.m. |
| Week 7 | Chapter 9  Discussion Board 7: Due Wednesday @ 11:59 CST  Classmate DB Responses: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Week 7 Assignment: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST  Journal Entry: Due Sunday @ 11:59 CST |
| Week 8 | Chapter 10 & Review  Discussion Board 8: Due Wednesday @ 11:59 CST  Classmate DB Responses: Due Saturday @ 11:59 CST  Week 8 Assignment: Due Saturday @ 11:59 CST  ***Final Exam*** |