Georgetown University Law Center
Spring 2016 Seminar:

Trade and Integration in the Americas

Professor
Mario A. Umaña

Professor
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Professor
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Seminar Syllabus

LAWG-785 (CRN #: 10137)
LAWJ-785 (CRN #: 10624)
Wednesdays 5:45 PM- 7:45 PM
Room # 587 McDonough Hall
I. **Subject of the Seminar: Trade and Integration in The Americas**

The seminar offers an opportunity to analyze the network of regional trade agreements in the Americas, as well as the major developments in trade policy in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

The discussions in class will focus on regional integration agreements such as MERCOSUR (South America), CACM (Central America), CARICOM (Caribbean), the Andean Community, and the most significant Free Trade Agreements such as NAFTA, Canada-Costa Rica, US-Chile, Mexico-Central American Countries, US-Central America/Dominican Republic (DR-CAFTA), U.S.-Peru, U.S-Panama and U.S.-Colombia, including the new generation of agreements such as Pacific Alliance, TPP, TAFTA. The topics that will be analyzed include market access for agricultural goods, dispute settlement systems, competition policy, trade remedies, investment, intellectual property, US and EC trade policy, among others. In addition to Professors Umana, Fernandez and Parga, other experts in some of these topics may be invited as guest speakers to enrich the discussion.

Students will be evaluated with a take-home exam. Class attendance and participation will be part of the overall evaluation.

II. **Organization, Required Materials**

The seminar is designed to encourage and facilitate discussion between the professors and a select group of students with special interests in regional trade agreements and the Western Hemisphere. The professors will not be “teaching,” but jointly analyzing the subject with the students and guest speakers. Each student will be expected to participate actively in all sessions, including the sessions during which the seminar papers will be presented.

The first part of the seminar will be devoted to the analysis of various trade and integration subjects in Latin American countries. Guest speakers (including government officials) may join us for some sessions.

In the second part of the seminar students will have the opportunity to make short presentations on specific trade areas of interest. Students will select their subjects in consultation with one of the professors. Each student will also be “the expert” on his/her topic during the presentation and in class discussion.

**Course materials:**

a) This Syllabus, and its Appendices.
b) Materials distributed in class from time to time for this seminar.

**Canvass Site:** Handouts, this Syllabus, and other pertinent documents will always be posted on the canvass site. Please check it often to check for new postings.

The Canvas Quick Link can be accessed through the main Georgetown Law Student Portal

http://www.law.georgetown.edu/students/

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1. You will be prompted to login using your `username` and `password`.

2. On the Canvas portal, look for **Spring 2016 “Trade and Integration in the Americas**

   Click on the link (“Trade and Integration in the Americas”) to access the Canvas site.

*Other useful websites for the seminar:*
- SICE/OAS: [www.sice.oas.org](http://www.sice.oas.org)
- IADB: [www.iadb.org/intal](http://www.iadb.org/intal)
- SIECA: [www.sieca.org.gt/SIECA.htm](http://www.sieca.org.gt/SIECA.htm)
- MERCOSUR: [www.mercosur.org.uy](http://www.mercosur.org.uy)
- Andean Community: [www.comunidadandina.org](http://www.comunidadandina.org)
- CARICOM: [www.caricom.org](http://www.caricom.org)
- All WTO documents (fully downloadable): [www.wto.org](http://www.wto.org)
- WTO Dispute Settlement (reports and commentaries): [http://www.worldtradelaw.net/](http://www.worldtradelaw.net/)

### III. The Take Home Exam

1. The method of grading is a final written OPEN book take-home exam. The exam presents a case featuring a set of facts and questions based on the trade issues and materials covered during the course. Students are expected to produce a legal memo, no longer than 10 pages, addressing and arguing the case from the point of view of a Trade Minister, the Legal Representative of a developed or developing country, an NGO, or any other relevant actor involved in trade policy.

2. The exam must be downloaded and submitted using the Online Exam/Paper Management System guidelines and procedures. The exam will be available during the examination period, starting on May 3 and ending on May 13, subject to confirmation by the Faculty. Once the exam is downloaded, it must be submitted within a deadline of 24 hrs. Students are permitted to use personal computers to complete their take-home examinations. Access is also permitted to class materials, documents, outlines, notes, files, etc., and the Internet. However, students may not consult one another or any other person in any form or fashion during the exam.

3. Grading is based on the quality of the analysis and arguments presented as well as the level of information provided on the different legal issues and questions included in the exam.

4. Class attendance and participation throughout the semester will be factors in determining the final grade as well as class presentations on selected topics.

5. Professors will discuss the take-home exam format, dates and guidelines during the first week of classes and again prior to the end of the semester. Students are encouraged to ask questions requiring clarification about the take home exam and the procedures.

6. The professors return students' examination papers to the Office of the Registrar, including a notification of the best examination paper. The exam questions and a copy of the best exam are
kept on file in the Office of the Registrar and are made available to students for review during each semester's exam review period.
APPENDIX A: TENTATIVE SEMINAR SCHEDULE
(Subject to revisions)

The tentative schedule (first few sessions are fairly definite) is as follows. The Seminar meets each Wednesday from 5:45 PM to 7:45 PM. The following are subject to changes to be announced at the first session:

**Session 1. Jan 20**  
Introduction to international treaty law, the multilateral trading system and regional trade agreements (RTAs)

**Session 2. Jan 27**  
Relationship between RTAs and the WTO Agreement: interpretation and application of Art XXIV of GATT and V of GATS

**Session 3. Feb. 3**  
Landscape of RTAs in the Americas and integration blocs (Mercosur, Andean Community, CARICOM, CACM)

**Session 4. Feb 10**  
The next generation of trade and integration agreements: Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and Pacific Alliance

**Session 5. Feb 24**  
US trade policy in the Americas and EU Trade Policy: TAFTA

**Session 6. March 2**  
Market access for goods: Case study on CAFTA-DR

**Session 7. March 16**  
Services and Investment: Special attention to EPA CARIFORUM-EU, US-Colombia and US-Peru FTAs

**Session 8. March 23**  
Intellectual Property Rights: Special attention to CARIFORUM-EU EPA, US-Colombia and US-Panama FTAs

**Session 9. March 30**  
Competition Policy in trade agreements in Latin America and developments at national level in Mexico, Brazil and Chile.

**Session 10. April 6**  
Labor and Environmental Issues: Special attention to CAFTA-DR, US-Colombia

**Session 11. April 13**  
Dispute settlement mechanisms in NAFTA and MERCOSUR: Case studies

**Session 12. April 20**  
Trade remedies under RTAs: Practice in NAFTA, and selected countries in the Americas.

**Session 13. April 27**  
Wrap-up summary

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APPENDIX B: SEMINAR STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE

We would appreciate learning from every person attending the Seminar the following: (PLEASE FILL OUT AND UPLOAD TO CANVAS OR SEND VIA EMAIL TO PROFESSORS BEFORE THE SECOND CLASS)

Your Name: ____________________________
Class in Law School (2d yr., 3d yr., Grad., LL.M., auditor, etc.): ____________________________
Other Status: ____________________________
Are you taking the seminar for course credit? ____________________________
Undergraduate Major: ____________________________ College/University: ____________________________
Do you have a law degree from another institution/country? ______
Law school/country____________________
Address in DC Area: ____________________________
Telephone number: ____________________________ E-mail address: ____________________________
Country you are from: ____________________________
What experience in international economic law have you had? ____________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

Have you taken (either in law school or other programs) or are now taking:
1. Courses in Economics? ____________________________ How many? ____________________________
2. Courses in International Economics? ____________________________ How many? ____________________________
3. Courses in International Law? ____________________________ How many? ____________________________
4. Course in Conflict of Laws? ____________________________
5. Course in Corporations? ____________________________
6. Tax I? ____________________________ and/or Tax II (Corporations)? ____________________________
7. International Taxation Course or Seminar? ____________________________
8. EEC Law? ____________________________
9. Civil Law? ____________________________
10. Other international legal seminars or courses in this law school? ____________________________

What is your principal reason or interest in taking this seminar?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
What are your career plans upon completion of your J.D. or LL.M program?
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
Which subjects related to this course particularly interest you?
______________________________________________________________________________
Do you have interest in studying or working outside the United States after you complete your J.D./LL.M./S.J.D. degree?

Languages other than English: ________________________________

How much have you traveled outside the United States/your country?

Have you authored papers or conducted research on specific trade issues?