CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL LEGAL STUDIES (CILS) SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (SIS)

Course No. : Ph.D. : DI 605

Course Title : Seminar on Contemporary Problems of International Law I

Course Type : Optional : All Faculty MembersCredits : Non-Credit : 2 hours per weekSemester : Monsoon

Course Objectives

The nature and application of international law in the emerging dynamics of international relations and politics is a complex discourse. Besides teaching some of the basic and key areas of international law at the Centre, it is crucial to understand and respond to the developing situations at the global arena. There are many actors in this discourse which *inter alia*, include States, international organisations, non-governmental agencies and several others. There are now multiplicity of international adjudicatory bodies such as the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the International Criminal Court (ICC), the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the World Trade Organization (WTO) and several other regional dispute settlement bodies. There are also several multilateral and bilateral treaty bodies that also provide for adjudicatory mechanisms. All these institutional and treaty frameworks continuously create international legal jurisprudence. The seminar course on contemporary problems of international law seeks to deal with and update the students with the international legal issues that confront international community on a regular basis. Some of these areas may not be able to be covered in a course being offered within the Centre.

The primary objective of the seminar course is to provide flexibility and urgency to understand the ongoing international developments from the point of view of international law. It will have an inter-disciplinary approach to the discourse. The impact on international law from other disciplines will also form the key objective of the course. In order to make the course more rich and purposeful experts and scholars from India and abroad will also be invited to teach and make their presentations.

Learning Outcomes

The course will equip students with the ongoing and latest developments in the field of international law. Students of the Centre are encouraged to prepare presentations and case studies for the purpose of this course. Students will also learn as to how to make presentations and initiate discussions in a seminar. It is a practical course and provides students an opportunity to learn and hone their skills in presentation and teaching. It will also academically help them to understand and respond to the latest developments in the field of international law. It will also provide students an opportunity to learn as to how to organize and conduct a seminar or a symposium.

Evaluation Methods

This course is evaluated by all faculty members on the sole basis of class participation. Student participation and their keen interest in the discourse will be the criteria for evaluation. However, based on the nature of students involvement moderation will be done.

Course Content

The Course content is based on the contemporary developments in the area of international law. There is no fixed formal structure for this course. Some of the key contents of the course can be outlined in the following format:

- It will be based on contemporary developments.
- The course content may also deal with an interface between domestic and international legal developments.
- Case law method will form an important component of the course content. Some of the major decisions of the domestic courts (including India) which may have impacted international law will also form part of the seminar course.
- The course content may also interface between law and policy discourse.

Readings:

Readings will be based on the contemporary problems chosen in the field of international law. Presentations will be based on a small concept note and a few notable readings in the area of presentations. Both the concept note and the readings (basic ones) will be circulated in advance to students and faculty members so that they are prepared and well equipped to take part in the discourse.
