

An Introduction to International Trade Law

**First Semester 2005-2006
IDC, Faculty of Law
Visiting Professor Colin Picker**

Syllabus

I. Overview

This course consists of a consideration of the global trade regimes. The course will focus on the legal and regulatory aspects of the World Trade Organization (“WTO”). The course will also examine a selection of the regional trade and customs arrangements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement and the United States-Israel Free Trade Agreement. Additionally, the course will also consider United States and Israeli domestic trade remedies, including antidumping, countervailing duties, and safeguard actions. The role of the regulation of international trade in such areas as the environment, labor rights, national security, the developing world, and human rights will also be considered.

This course is a critical course for future attorneys or business-persons that works with clients involved in transnational business, including small and large businesses, as well as governmental and non-governmental clients. Additionally, students with interests in modern globalization, environment, labor, and geopolitics should have a firm understanding of international and domestic trade issues, as trade is so often a primary focus within these global movements. The recent issues raised in the *Live8* concerts clearly show the central role played by international trade.

The course will be taught in English. The readings will comprise a mixture of English and Hebrew texts. Due to the fact that some of the readings will be in English, the quantity of those English readings will be reduced to reflect that increased level of difficulty. Wherever possible Hebrew texts will be employed.

II. General Information

Class meets: Thursday at 17:00 to 18:30

Office Hours: Thursdays before and after class.
Also generally available by appointment.

Contact information:

My e-mail is pickerc@umkc.edu

Web at <http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/Profiles/Picker/index.htm>)

III. Course Assessment

2 Credit Hours. Final Exam, in *Hebrew*, through the Multiple Choice style. Specific details will be discussed in class. I am considering implementing bonus for participation.

IV. Readings

Reading assignments will be handed out in class periodically, and available at my website: <http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/Profiles/Picker/index.htm>

Much of the readings, indeed the majority, will be in Hebrew (from Professor Arie Reich's new book, *THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION AND ISRAEL: LAW, ECONOMICS AND POLITICS* (Arie Reich, ed.) (Bar Ilan University Press, forthcoming) (*Hebrew*). Initially, until the publisher completes the book, we will be working from copies of the page proofs that will be available at the library.

Additionally, readings will occasionally include review of treaties, cases, government and international organization websites, and academic articles. These may be in English.

V. Draft Course Outline

Thursday November 10:	Introduction to the Class, the GATT and WTO
Thursday November 17:	WTO Dispute Settlement
Thursday November 24:	MFN and National Treatment
Thursday December 1:	Safeguards, Escape Clauses, & Adjustment Assistance
Thursday December 8:	Subsidies and Countervailing duties
Thursday December 15:	Dumping and Anti-Dumping
Thursday December 22:	The WTO Agreement on Agriculture
Thursday December 29:	GATT Art. XXIV: RTAs – The NAFTA, US-Israel, etc
Thursday January 5:	GATT Art. XXI & Art. XX
Thursday January 12:	Non Trade Issues – The Environment?
Thursday January 19:	Non Trade Issues II - Labor, Human Rights?
Thursday January 26:	Developing Countries and International Trade
Thursday February 2:	Israel and other International Economic Organizations

VI. Initial Reading Assignments – First Two Classes

Thursday November 10: Introduction to the Class, the GATT and WTO

Dr. Arie Reich, *The World Trade Organization: From GATT to the WTO* in *THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION AND ISRAEL: LAW, ECONOMICS AND POLITICS* (Arie Reich, ed.) (Bar Ilan University Press, forthcoming) (Page proofs available at the library) (*in Hebrew*).

Review the WTO Agreements, paying particular attention to the GATT 1947, available at:

http://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/legal_e.htm#goods (*in English*).

Thursday November 17: International Trade Dispute Settlement

Professor Joseph H.H. Weiler, *The Rule of Lawyers and the Ethos of Diplomats: Reflections on the Internal and External Legitimacy of WTO Dispute Settlement* in *THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION AND ISRAEL: LAW, ECONOMICS AND POLITICS* (Arie Reich, ed.) (Bar Ilan University Press, forthcoming) (Page proofs available at the library) (*in Hebrew*).

Review the Annex 2, the Dispute Settlement Understanding of the WTO Agreements, available at

http://www.wto.org/english/docs_e/legal_e/legal_e.htm#goods (*in English*).

Later reading assignments will be handed out in class and available at my website <http://www.law.umkc.edu/faculty/Profiles/Picker/index.htm>