

An Introduction to International Trade Law

**First Semester 2005-2006
Bar Ilan University, Faculty of Law
Visiting Professor Colin Picker**

Syllabus

I. Overview

This course consists of a study of the world trading system, focusing on legal policy and application. The course will examine in detail the structure and workings of the global trade regime - the World Trade Organization (“WTO”). In addition, regional trade and customs arrangements such as the NAFTA and the many Israeli trade agreements will be examined. Additionally, the course will consider United States and Israeli domestic trade remedies, including antidumping, countervailing duties, safeguard actions as well as other unilateral state trade restricting practices, such as the U.S. section 301 and 337 actions. The role of international trade in such areas as the environment, labor rights, national security, the developing world, human rights, and non-market economies will also be considered.

This course is extremely relevant for any attorney working with clients involved in transnational business, including small and large business clients, as well as governmental and non-governmental clients. Indeed, international trade is today the most dynamic area of international law. Attorneys 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

II. General Information

Class meets: Sundays at 16:00 to 17:30

Office Hours: Sundays 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 texts from Treaties, GATT/WTO Cases, government and international organization websites, and academic articles. These may be in English.

V. Draft Course Outline

Sunday October 30:	Introduction to the Class, the GATT and WTO
Sunday November 6:	International Trade Dispute Settlement
Sunday November 13:	MFN and National Treatment
Sunday November 20:	Safeguards, Escape Clauses, & Adjustment Assistance
Sunday November 27:	Subsidies and Countervailing duties
Sunday December 4:	Dumping and Anti-Dumping
Sunday December 11:	Government Procurement
Sunday December 18:	The WTO Agreement on Agriculture
Sunday December 25:	GATT Art. XXIV: RTAs – The NAFTA, US-Israel, etc
Sunday January 1:	GATT Art. XXI & Art. XX
Sunday January 8:	Non Trade Issues – The Environment?
Sunday January 15:	Non Trade Issues II - Labor, Human Rights?
Sunday January 22:	Developing Countries and International Trade
Sunday January 29:	Israel and the WTO, OECD and other International Economic Organizations

VI. Initial Reading Assignments – First Two Classes

Sunday October 30: 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*).

Sunday November 6: 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>