



## Summer Session 2019

# USE YOUR SUMMER TO THE FULLEST



Summer Session  
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

**Be Boulder.**

---

## COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

### Political Science International Law

PSCI3183, 3 semester hours, Section 001, Class No. 17199

**Maymester: M-F 12:30pm – 3:30pm**

**Instructor:** Megan Shannon, Associate Professor of Political Science

---

#### COURSE DESCRIPTION

Does international law change how countries behave? If so, how? People have strong opinions about the effectiveness of international law. Some say that international law changes how countries act, and that countries will even do what's not in their interest so that they can honor international law. Others say that countries only act in their own interest, and that international law has little ability to meaningfully change how countries behave. Who's right?

This class explores if and how countries abide by legal principles in a world where no government can force them to do so. Some of the questions we address have clear answers: such as, does international law allow countries to provide assistance to rebel groups during civil wars? Other questions have less clear answers: for example, does human rights law permit countries to ban headscarves to foster secularism and religious freedom? This class will teach you how to read, interpret, and apply legal principles to a wide variety of political situations; some straightforward, others more complex. By exploring the influence of international law, we gain insight into the prospect of cooperation in an anarchic world.

This class is excellent preparation for law school, graduate school, and careers requiring analytical skills.

#### FACULTY BIO: MEGAN SHANNON

Megan Shannon is associate professor and director of undergraduate studies in the department of political science.

