

INTERNATIONAL SHIP FINANCE

SYLLABUS

FALL 2021

This class will meet via Zoom (details to be provided) as follows:

This course will meet on the following 4 days: Friday, September 24, 3:00-6:00 pm & Saturday, September 25, 10:00 am-1:00 pm; and Friday, October 1, 3:00-6:00 pm & Saturday, October 2, 10:00 am-1:00 pm.

Exam information:

Students will take a 1 hour non-proctored exam, which will be available to them on Friday, October 9, at noon, and it will be due by no later than Friday, October 16 at noon.

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Course Overview/Objectives:

While this course will cover a specialized area of the practice of law, international ship finance, and issues germane to that practice, the broader theme of the class is international business transactions. This course will address the issues practitioners routinely confront in international vessel finance transactions. Strategies for developing optimal transaction structures will be examined, in addition to coping with the differences between maritime law and land based commercial law. Conflicts of law issues inherent to an intrinsically cross-border industry will be discussed, as will the peculiar nature of maritime liens and ship mortgages. Finally, the class will explore the ramifications of recent United States Supreme Court decisions that impact maritime financial transactions. The objective of this course is to provide each student with a working knowledge of how vessel financings are structured. (1 credit hour)

Office Hours:

My "office hours" will be by appointment only and will be via Zoom or telephone call depending on each student's preference. Please contact me via email for an appointment.

Required Text:

“Getting the Deal Through – Ship Finance 2021”, published by Lexology. As the editor of that compendium I received complimentary copies and, hence, I shall send a sufficient number of copies of this volume to Academic Affairs for each student to pick up well before the classes. I ask that, in addition to reading the introduction, you review the chapters on the United States, the Marshall Islands, Singapore and Brazil (I recommend you review them in that order).

In addition, during each class I will use PowerPoint Presentations to help illustrate some concepts, each of which I will subsequently upload to CSOL*Access* and/or TWEN. Principally, these presentations will address ship finance transaction structures and issues. I will also be uploading to TWEN several form loan documents and select cases for review and discussion.

Attendance:

The ABA standards for the Approval of Law Schools require regular and punctual class attendance. To comply with this standard, CSOL has defined a policy wherein students must not miss more than 15 percent of the class meetings in any course. For this course, which meets only four times, a student cannot miss any class. To get credit for attendance, I will need to be aware that each student is present. I will require that each student will keep their camera on during class and I will take attendance during class. A student who is present but unprepared for class may be marked as absent. A student who is tardy (more than 15 minutes late) or who exits class early (more than 15 minutes early) may be marked as absent.

Accommodations:

Students with disabilities should contact Dean Margaret Lawton as soon as possible to request reasonable accommodations.

Evaluation/Grading:

Your grade will be based on two components. There will be a final exam that will count for 75% of your grade. The exam is graded on the Anonymous Grading System (AGS). Students will take a 1 hour non-proctored exam, which will be available to them on Friday, October 9, at noon, and it will be due by no later than Friday, October 16 at noon. Class participation will count for 25% of the grade. This will encompass participation in class, tardiness, and unpreparedness. As I expect this class to be a small class, questions and observations regarding the material are strongly encouraged.

Reading Assignments:

As we get closer to the start of this class (but no later than the Labor Day weekend) I will post the specific reading assignments for each of our sessions. Since we will not be using a traditional law textbook for this class but rather will be reviewing documents, law summaries and select cases, denoting an expected amount of “pages” to be read for each session would be misleading but under Charleston School of Law policy, the amount of work for each credit hour of a course

must be: at least 750 minutes of in-class time (12 ½ hours), which may include 50 minutes of final examination time; and, at least 1800 minutes (30 hours) of out-of-class student work. This is a 1 credit hour course, which means that in addition to attending classes you should expect to spend 30 hours in preparation for the class.