

## Course Information

### Course Information

Space Policy SPACE 9005

### Prerequisites

SPACE 9001

SPACE 9002

SPACE 9003

## Instructor Information

Dr. Dale Armstrong

Limited Duties Instructor – Western University

Students must use their Western (@uwo.ca) email addresses when contacting their instructors.

## Course Syllabus, Schedule, Delivery Mode

Good space policy provides both the rationale and the guidance for any endeavor in space. Yet, at the same time, contemporary policy decisions must operate within the precepts of a political/legal regime that was first codified over fifty years ago in the form of the 1967 Outer Space Treaty (OST)—reflecting a framework for space that arose during the bi-polar, Cold War rivalry of that era. As such, more than fifty years on, that initial regime for space governance is under pressure on many fronts due to: the increasing number of state actors operating in space; the expansion of the commercial space sector; more affordable access to space; and, finally, the dawn of a new era in which private enterprise will begin to operate independently in space. Such developments have multi-faceted implications and raise new questions about both sustainability and security in space, and how best to manage the commons of space for the benefit of everyone on Earth.

### Outcomes:

Upon completion of this course students will be able to:

#### Identify:

- Threats to the orbital environment stemming from increasing levels of space debris
- The problems associated with registration, traffic management, and space situational awareness issues related to small satellites and large constellations

#### Understand and Discuss:

- The increasing demand for both orbital slots and radio spectrum.
- Geopolitical tensions on Earth and how they can create problems for security in space.

- Modern militaries dependence on space, thus turning military satellites into potential targets should terrestrial hostilities break out.
- Anti-satellite weapons and missile defence systems and the potential to severely disrupt the space environment for everyone.
- Whether or not to return to the Moon
- The regulation of space tourism
- The legal regime surrounding property rights and resource extraction on other worlds; satellite disposal and salvage operations to declutter popular orbits; domestic export controls; and, as well, planetary defence.