The goal of this casebook is to help students learn how to solve the types of transnational legal problems they are likely to encounter in practice, regardless of their field of practice and regardless of whether they think of themselves as practicing international law. Therefore, this casebook is different from traditional public international law casebooks. Like them, it covers the sources of international law and introduces students to international courts. Unlike traditional public international law casebooks, however, this casebook urges students not to be “international law-centric” or “international court-centric” when analyzing transnational legal problems, and gives them the resources to learn how to use national law and national courts, and private norms and alternative dispute resolution methods, to solve transnational legal problems on behalf of their clients.

We believe that this casebook’s approach makes it especially well-suited for required courses on international or transnational law, since it focuses on problems that all students are likely to encounter in the present-day practice of law regardless of their practice area and regardless of their preexisting interest in international law. It is also well suited for both first-year and upper-division students. Much of the material deals with the transnational dimensions of first-year law courses like Civil Procedure, Contracts, Constitutional Law, and Torts, and thus will provide a less intimidating point of access to the field while also reinforcing learning across the first-year curriculum. The casebook also includes advanced material on transnational litigation in U.S. courts, making it an excellent choice for upper-division elective courses in international civil litigation. Put simply, this book is designed to prepare students for law practice in a globalized world and to equip them with the knowledge and skills they need to solve transnational legal problems, regardless of whether they plan to practice international law as such.

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