

International Business Transactions (Law 828-001)

Fall 2019

Instructor: Ibele

Reading Assignment for Wednesday 04 September

Chow/Schoenbaum Casebook pp 1 – 47

Questions for discussion (now, and throughout the course):

1. The current edition of the Chow/Schoenbaum casebook was published in 2015. The initial materials make some assumptions about international business that may have come into question since the 2016 election. Can you identify some of these assumptions?
2. On Thursday, 23 August, President Trump tweeted that US companies “are hereby ordered to immediately start looking for an alternative to China.” This was widely interpreted as a directive to US companies to cut their business ties to China. Mr Trump later clarified that he had been referring to a provision of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act of 1977. The original purpose of that legislation was to enable the US to combat terrorism and drug trafficking, and to put pressure on “rogue regimes” which condoned or provided cover for such activities. What is the nature of US companies’ commercial links to China? How would they go about cutting those links? How long would that take?
3. Globalization - specifically, the internationalization of business – provides much of the context of this course. Has globalization of business been a good thing? Can it be reversed? Would that be a good thing? Would most US companies be content to focus only on the US market for their products and services? Has globalization broadened the career opportunities for law grads?

I’m looking forward to meeting you and discussing these and other topics at the intersection of law and business this semester.