



Title	<u>Crossborder Litigation: The Amazon Disaster</u>
Lecturer(s):	prof. Dennis Campbell – guest lecturer Director of Center for International Legal Studies (CILS) dennis.campbell@cils.org
Brief description	<p>For many years, large oil companies drilled for oil in the Amazon Basin. That resulted in major oil spills, widespread pollution, and death and disease for hundreds of Indians who lived in the region.</p> <p>Oil pollution in Ecuador’s Amazon rain forest is <i>“one of the largest environmental disasters in history”</i>.</p> <p>Oil contamination of soil and water used by resident Indians for agriculture, fishing, bathing, and drinking is alleged to have caused a sharp increase in serious illnesses, including cancer, among local people.</p> <p>It led to more than 20 years of litigation against Chevron, with courts and arbitration panels in many countries involved. The damage resulted in a court judgment for US \$9.5-billion against Chevron, which denies the allegations. Chevron has employed 2,000 lawyers and legal professionals from more than 60 law firms to fight the damage award. The claim has involved courts in the US, Canada, Ecuador, Argentina, Brazil, Gibraltar and an arbitration proceeding in The Hague.</p> <p>This course examines the nature of the environmental disaster and the litigation that resulted.</p>
Schedule	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Lago Agrio Introduction2. Alien Tort Claims Act I3. Alien Tort Claims Act II4. Racketeering Act5. Bilateral Investment Treaties6. Extraterritorial Reach of US Law7. Third-Party Litigation Financing8. Enforcing Foreign Judgments I9. Enforcing Foreign Judgments II10. Let’s Talk About the Examination

Materials/Recommended readings	All are provided online.
Assessment/Exam	The final grade will be based on 8 short essay questions, one for each class.