

INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE LAW

(Two Semester Credits)

Professor Derek Fincham, South Texas College of Law Houston

This course will examine the intersection between law and material cultural heritage. Course lectures and readings will cover art theft, looting of ancient sites, looting during WWII, museum collections, and repatriation of works like the Elgin Marbles. We will make use of the setting of Valletta, itself a World Heritage Site. The course will uncover how domestic and international law works to resolve disputes over ancient sites and works of art. A particular emphasis will be the legal instruments which prohibit the intentional destruction and looting of ancient culture. We will examine international conventions, domestic laws, and analyze the prominent cases which have arisen over cultural heritage disputes.