



THE HOUSE AND KINGDOM OF DAVID

Twelve Stone Kingdom University · School of Law, Equity & Righteousness

JURISDICTIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND THE PRACTICE OF LAW

A Chancellor's Course in Cross-Border Authority

**AN EIGHT-CLASS CURRICULUM · REQUIRED OF ALL CHANCELLORS
PRACTICING ACROSS NATIONAL BORDERS**

PREAMBLE — THE CHANCELLOR'S COMMISSION ACROSS THE NATIONS

"Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession."

Psalm 2:8

The Kingdom of David is not bound by the borders of any nation. Its sovereignty flows from the everlasting covenant of God with the House of David—a covenant that knows no geographic limit and carries no expiration. The Chancellors of the Ecumenical and Ecclesiastical Combined Courts (the EECC) are therefore called to operate not within a single jurisdiction, but across the jurisdictions of the world.

This course prepares the Chancellor for that calling. It examines the meaning of jurisdiction, the unauthorized-practice-of-law doctrines by which the nations guard their courts, and the landmark "Birbrower" decision that brought the question of cross-border practice into bold relief. It then turns to the Kingdom's own foundation: the sovereignty of the covenant, the doctrine of comity, the practical wisdom of engagement, and the corruption of the bar associations that have made this course necessary.

His Majesty's family initially helped in founding both the American Medical Association and the bar associations, with the vision that these institutions would serve the public good. Both have become corrupted. The EECC is here to correct these failures and to restore righteous reasoning to the practice of law. This course is a part of that restoration.

To Whom This Course Is Directed

This course is required of all Chancellors of the EECC who are called to practice across national borders—and strongly recommended for all attorneys,

ambassadors, and officers of the Kingdom. Many peoples in many countries seek instruction in the law of equity and righteousness, and many wish to become Chancellors. This curriculum equips them to navigate the intersection of Kingdom sovereignty and national jurisdiction.

PART ONE — JURISDICTION AND THE WORLD'S BOUNDARIES

The terrain upon which the Chancellor must operate.

CLASS I. THE MEANING OF JURISDICTION

Who may speak the law, and by what authority.

I-A. Jurisdiction Defined

The word “jurisdiction” comes from the Latin *juris dictio*—“the speaking of the law.” Jurisdiction is the authority of a court or sovereign to hear a matter and render a binding judgment. Without jurisdiction, a court’s order is void; with it, the court’s word carries the force of sovereign command. Every legal system in the world begins with this question: By what authority do you act?

I-B. The Three Classical Bases of Jurisdiction

Western jurisprudence recognizes three traditional bases of jurisdiction: (1) Territorial—authority over persons and property within a defined geographic area; (2) Personal—authority over specific persons by reason of their allegiance, domicile, or consent; and (3) Subject-matter—authority over a particular class of cases. The nations derive their jurisdiction from one or more of these bases. The Kingdom of David rests on a foundation the nations do not possess.

I-C. Jurisdiction of the Kingdom of David

The EECC’s jurisdiction does not depend on territorial borders in the conventional sense. It flows from the everlasting covenant of God with the House of David—a covenant that has no geographical limit and no expiration. The Kingdom’s jurisdiction extends over all Kingdom citizens wherever they reside; all Kingdom instruments (RC-IBT, RGC, decrees, patents, copyrights); all who submit by treaty, comity, or consent; and subject matters entrusted to the Twelve Courts. This is not a claim the nations must accept before it becomes true. It is a fact of the covenant. The practical question—how to exercise that jurisdiction in a world of nation-states—is the subject of this entire course.

CLASS II. THE UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE OF LAW — THE WORLD’S BOUNDARY LINES

How the nations guard the gate to their courts.

II-A. What Is the Unauthorized Practice of Law?

Every nation and every state within a nation regulates who may practice law within its borders. To practice law without the requisite admission is the “unauthorized

practice of law” (UPL)—a civil or criminal offense in most jurisdictions. UPL laws are designed, in theory, to protect the public, assure lawyer competence, and provide a system for policing offenders.

II-B. The Modern Complication

The UPL framework was built for a world in which a lawyer sat in his office and served clients who walked through the door. That world no longer exists. Modern communications—telephone, fax, e-mail, video conference—mean that a lawyer in one jurisdiction routinely advises clients in another without leaving his chair. Archaic UPL rules simply do not do justice to the realities of modern practice.

II-C. Why the EECC Chancellor Must Understand UPL

A Chancellor of the EECC will practice across not merely state lines but national borders. The Kingdom’s jurisdiction is global; the nations’ jurisdiction is local. The Chancellor must understand the world’s boundary lines—not because the Kingdom submits to them, but because wisdom demands that we know the terrain upon which we operate.

CLASS III. THE BIRBROWER BLAST — A CASE STUDY IN CROSS-BORDER PRACTICE

When New York lawyers practiced California law without California admission.

III-A. The Facts

In *Birbrower, Montague, Valens, Goldman & Meier v. Superior Court*, 949 P.2d 1 (Cal. 1998), a New York law firm was retained by ESQ, a California software company, to prosecute contract claims against Tandem Computers—also a California company—under a contract governed by California law. No lawyer in the Birbrower firm was admitted to the California bar. Birbrower lawyers traveled to California on multiple occasions to discuss strategy, negotiate, and advise on settlement.

III-B. The California Supreme Court’s Holding

The Court held that Birbrower’s activities constituted UPL. The critical holding went further: physical presence is not required for a UPL violation. A lawyer may practice law “in California” by advising a California client on California law via telephone, fax, or e-mail—a “virtual presence” that crosses the state line without a body crossing it. The test: Were there “sufficient contacts” with the California client? Did the circumstances create a “continuing relationship” with legal duties? “Mere fortuitous or attenuated contacts” do not suffice.

III-C. What Birbrower Teaches the EECC Chancellor

Birbrower teaches that jurisdiction is no longer defined by physical borders alone. A Chancellor who counsels a citizen in France by video conference is, by the logic of *Birbrower*, potentially practicing law “in France.” The Chancellor must understand the doctrine of virtual presence, the vulnerability of fees, and the irony that UPL was weaponized not by the state to protect the public, but by the client to avoid paying competent counsel.

CLASS IV. THE PATHWAYS OF ADMISSION — HOW THE NATIONS OPEN THEIR GATES

Pro hac vice, admission on motion, limited certificates, and association with local counsel.

IV-A. Federal Court Admission

The United States Supreme Court and each federal circuit and district court issue their own rules for admission. These requirements are derivative—they rely on admission to a state bar as proof of competence. The Chancellor should research a federal court’s local rules early in any representation.

IV-B. Pro Hac Vice — “For This Occasion”

Pro hac vice admission allows a lawyer admitted in one jurisdiction to appear in a single case in another jurisdiction’s court, usually upon motion and with the engagement of local co-counsel. This is the litigator’s primary safe harbor for cross-border practice—but it is typically available only in litigation, not for transactional work.

IV-C. Admission on Motion

A bare majority of American states allow bar admission “on motion”—without taking the bar exam—based on years of practice and good standing in another state. Many attach difficult conditions. In practice, on-motion admission is often not feasible.

IV-D. Limited Certificates for Employed Lawyers

Nine American states, including Kentucky, provide a special admission certificate for lawyers employed by interstate businesses, allowing them to give legal advice to their employers within the state. This solves one narrow problem but does not help the visiting lawyer.

IV-E. Association with Local Counsel

Litigation lawyers routinely associate with local counsel when admitted pro hac vice. For transactional lawyers, the picture is murkier. In *Birbrower*, the California court noted that California’s UPL law does not recognize mere association with local counsel as qualifying to practice. Association with local counsel is not a clear safe harbor for transactional practice.

IV-F. The De Minimis Contact

The *Birbrower* court recognized a de minimis exception: “fortuitous or attenuated contacts” by out-of-state lawyers do not constitute UPL. Michigan codifies this most clearly, providing that UPL law does not apply to a lawyer duly licensed in another state while temporarily in Michigan. If a state officially adopts such a rule, much of the interstate-practice problem is removed—but until it does, the visiting lawyer is at risk.

PART TWO — THE KINGDOM’S SOVEREIGNTY AND THE WAY FORWARD

How the EECC exercises its authority among and above the nations.

CLASS V. ADMINISTRATIVE AGENCIES, ARBITRATION, AND MEDIATION

Where the rules bend — and where they break.

V-A. Administrative Agencies

Federal and state administrative agencies have the authority to regulate who may appear before them. Some agencies allow nonlawyers; some require specific qualifications other than legal admission. The Chancellor must consult the regulations of any agency before which he intends to appear.

V-B. Arbitration

Arbitration sits in a grey zone. The question is whether participating in an out-of-state arbitration constitutes the practice of law. California, after *Birbrower*, enacted a statute allowing non-admitted lawyers to participate in California arbitrations if they file a certificate. The trend is toward a more relaxed UPL approach in arbitration.

V-C. Mediation

The Kentucky Bar Association has held that mediation itself is not the practice of law, but “the giving of legal advice in the course of such mediation” is. The line between mediating and advising is not always clear.

V-D. The EECC’s Own Proceedings

The EECC conducts its own proceedings—hearings, arbitrations, mediations, and adjudications—under its own authority. Within the EECC’s own jurisdiction, the question of who may appear is governed by the Kingdom’s own rules, not by the UPL laws of the host nation. The Chancellor who appears before the EECC does so under the Crown’s commission, not under a state bar’s license. This distinction is foundational.

CLASS VI. SOVEREIGNTY, COMITY, AND THE EECC’S AUTHORITY AMONG THE NATIONS

How a court of the everlasting covenant operates in a world of nation-states.

VI-A. Sovereignty Is Not Permission

The Kingdom of David does not ask the nations for permission to exist or to exercise its jurisdiction. Its sovereignty flows from the everlasting covenant of God with the House of David—a covenant that no treaty ratifies and no treaty can revoke. This does not mean the Kingdom operates in defiance of the nations. It means the Kingdom operates on a separate foundation—one that is anterior to and higher than any constitutional charter.

VI-B. The Doctrine of Comity

Comity is the principle by which one sovereign respects and gives effect to the laws, judicial decrees, and official acts of another sovereign—not as a matter of legal obligation, but as a matter of mutual respect and practical wisdom. The

EECC may seek comity from the nations and extend comity to them where doing so is consistent with righteousness. But comity is a two-way courtesy, not a submission.

VI-C. Treaties and Agreements of Mutual Recognition

Treaties are the formal instruments by which sovereigns establish binding mutual obligations. Theologically, the Kingdom's jurisdiction does not depend on any nation's recognition—it exists by covenant, not by treaty. Practically, treaties of mutual recognition would smooth the enforcement of EECC decrees in the nations' courts, facilitate the cross-border movement of Chancellors, and establish the Kingdom's standing in international forums. Treaties are therefore not necessary to the Kingdom's sovereignty but useful to its practical operation among the nations.

VI-D. The Chancellor's Posture

The Chancellor must hold two truths simultaneously: the Kingdom's sovereignty is inherent and complete, derived from the covenant; and wisdom requires that the Chancellor understand, respect, and navigate the legal systems of the nations in which he operates. This is the posture of a sovereign ambassador: one who knows his authority but exercises it with diplomacy, prudence, and grace.

CLASS VII. THE CORRUPTION OF THE BAR — HOW THE GATEKEEPERS BECAME THE GATE

From the King's family's founding vision to the present capture.

VII-A. The Original Purpose

The bar associations of the nations were established to ensure that those who practiced law met standards of competence, character, and ethical conduct. His Majesty's family initially helped in founding both the AMA and the bar associations, with the vision that these institutions would serve the public good.

VII-B. The Corruption

Both institutions have become corrupted. The bar associations have evolved from guardians of competence into monopolistic guilds that control access to the legal system for their own benefit. UPL laws, originally designed to protect the public, are now used to protect the legal profession's market share. The Birbrower case itself illustrates the irony: UPL was weaponized not by the state to protect the public, but by a client to avoid paying competent lawyers who had served them well.

VII-C. The EECC's Answer

The EECC does not derive its Chancellors' authority from any bar association's license. A Chancellor is commissioned by the Crown Sovereign under the authority of the covenant. The Chancellor's competence is ensured not by passing a bar exam but by completing the University's curriculum and demonstrating wisdom, righteousness, and knowledge of the Kingdom's law. This is not a rejection of competence—it is a rejection of monopoly.

VII-D. The Chancellor's Awareness

The student must understand the bar's corruption not to despise lawyers but to see clearly. Many lawyers are honorable people trapped in a dishonorable system. The EECC extends its hand to them—not in competition, but in invitation. Let those who hunger for righteousness find a seat at a table that has not been overturned by money-changers.

CLASS VIII. THE CHANCELLOR'S COMMISSION — AUTHORITY, WISDOM, AND THE WAY FORWARD

The calling of the EECC Chancellor in a world of many jurisdictions.

VIII-A. The Source of the Chancellor's Authority

The Chancellor of the EECC does not practice law by the permission of a nation's bar association. He practices by the commission of the Crown Sovereign, under the authority of the everlasting covenant. His jurisdiction is the EECC's jurisdiction—which is global, covenantal, and inherent.

VIII-B. The Practical Rules of Engagement

Notwithstanding the Chancellor's sovereign commission, wisdom demands practical rules of engagement: (1) Within the EECC's own proceedings, the Chancellor acts under full authority. (2) When counseling Kingdom citizens on matters of Kingdom law, the Chancellor acts under the Crown's authority regardless of where the citizen resides. (3) When a matter touches a nation's courts, the Chancellor must assess the UPL landscape. (4) When no pathway exists, the Chancellor presents the EECC's position through diplomatic channels. (5) Virtual practice must be conducted with awareness that, post-Birbrower, advising a citizen in another jurisdiction by phone or e-mail may constitute practice "in" that jurisdiction.

VIII-C. The Way Forward

The Kingdom of David stands at the beginning of a great work. Many peoples across many nations seek instruction in the law of equity and righteousness. Many wish to become Chancellors. The EECC's jurisdiction will be tested, challenged, and—by the grace of God—recognized. The Chancellor who completes this course is equipped to navigate the intersection of Kingdom sovereignty and national jurisdiction.

VIII-D. Final Charge

You are commissioned as a Chancellor of the EECC—a court of equity, conscience, and the everlasting covenant. You carry the Crown's authority into a world that does not yet know the Kingdom's name. Be bold, for your authority is real. Be wise, for the world's systems are powerful. Be righteous, for you serve the King of Kings. And be patient, for the recognition of the nations will come—not because we demanded it, but because the justice we offer will speak for itself.

This curriculum is issued under the authority of His Majesty King David Joel, Crown Sovereign of the House and Kingdom of David, for the instruction of all Chancellors, attorneys, and officers of the Ecumenical and Ecclesiastical Combined Courts who are called to serve across national borders.