

Module Details	
Module Title	International Humanitarian Law (Distance Learning)
Module Code	LAW7051-B
Academic Year	2023/4
Credits	20
School	School of Law
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 7

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Directed Study	176
Online Lecture (Asynchronous)	12
Online Seminar (Synchronous)	12

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
DLA	University of Bradford / Semester 1

## Module Aims

This module aims to develop students' awareness of contemporary issues in international humanitarian law.

The module is an important element of the LLM International Human Rights Law and Development Programme because it would enable student to develop in-depth understanding of the principles of international humanitarian law, encourage participative, independent and reflective learning and the development of personal and professional skills. The module is also a part of the LLM International Legal Studies Programme as it is one of the significant modern area of legal studies that students could explore.

The module aims to provide students with an understanding of both substantive and procedural aspects of international humanitarian law, examining its sources, principles and elements. The module provides students with detailed knowledge about international humanitarian law which enables them to evaluate research and advanced scholarship in international humanitarian law. This includes the capacity to evaluate existing theories and methodologies and, where appropriate, propose new hypotheses

The module helps students to develop the ability to work with their knowledge of legal principles and apply them to new situations in order to arrive at imaginative and innovative solutions and interpretations of international humanitarian law

It aims to develop excellent communication skills including writing and legal research skills commensurate with LLM level study and advanced scholarship

The module will examine developments in the field of international humanitarian law and encourage students to reflect on the nature, function, strengths and weaknesses of the implementation mechanisms of international humanitarian law.

It will enable students to gain an appreciation of the role that international humanitarian law should play as a part of a wider response to armed conflicts; whether international or non-international.

This module is also suitable for any other postgraduate programme, where public international institutions, international human rights and development as well as peace and security studies are relevant focus of study

## Outline Syllabus

The syllabus will include the following:

- The basic rules of international humanitarian law
- The protection of civilians - Strategies of prevention
- Roles of international bodies in implementing and enforcing international humanitarian law rules
- Accountability for breach of those rules

## Learning Outcomes

Outcome Number	Description
01	Critically assess the value of the principles of international humanitarian law and of the framework for enforcement of the rules of international humanitarian law.

Outcome Number	Description
02	Critically appraise international dimensions in humanitarian law.
03	Apply a detailed knowledge of international humanitarian law in a critical assessment of contemporary situations.
04	Carry out effective research in the field of international humanitarian law using a mixture of primary and secondary sources and be familiar with the major literature and legal instruments.

## Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

All sessions are delivered online using digital legal resources and appropriate learning technologies. The Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) for each module is the hub of knowledge through which all module materials are accessed and where a big part of student work takes place.

The module will be delivered over 12 weeks, 6 of which will include synchronous learning and 6 asynchronous. Synchronous learning, which involves student interaction with module lecturers and tutors, includes 4 2-hour "live" weekly seminars focusing on delivering content, clarifying issues on the law topics, and discussing answers to students' tasks. Two additional 2-hour synchronous seminars will focus on the design of and preparation for the summative assessment, module revision, and the collection and review of student feedback which will be used to improve module delivery.

The six weeks of asynchronous learning include a mix of learning activities such as pre-recorded online presentations or talks on a particular topic, links to relevant videos and online resources and lists of questions and tasks for self-study. You can watch the presentations, videos and work on the answers and tasks at your own time.

The learning materials and activities (synchronous and asynchronous) cover the underlying theory and consider issues of

- critical evaluation of the law through a combination practical
- questions and case studies. Successfully completing tasks set
- requires independent legal research drawing on variety of both
- primary and secondary materials and written and oral presentations
- Oral feedback is given in the class during the live sessions and
- opportunities for written feedback are provided.

A formative assessment will be made available to help you better prepare for the summative assessment.

An online module manual provides an outline of the module structure, content, learning and teaching strategy and assessment format.

The manual is complemented by more detailed study guides which provide guidance on the topic of the weekly study and contain the learning materials (pre-recorded lectures, slides, tutorial tasks, self-study tasks) the reading lists, and other useful information for each week.

The module includes reference to and discussion of issues of ecocide sustainability within the international arena, including the concept of intergenerational equity and the impact of conflict on the social and economic aspects of communities.

Learning will be directed, supported and reinforced through series of workshops. The sessions will use theoretical discussions and practical applications of cases and case studies to enable students to think critically about international dimensions of criminal law and about obstacles and developments in this emerging field, with oral feedback given in classes. Some of the sessions may be student-led presentations Drawing on primary and secondary sources, students will complete research and presentation exercises. Also, students will be set tasks to monitor their progress, in addition to formal assessment. All teaching will be supported by information supplied on the virtual learning space, Canvas. The module is assessed by one piece of coursework. Students will provide a written sample in which they are required to construct a response to a question, topic, or brief statement, and supply supporting details or arguments. This will provide evidence that can be used to assess students' understanding and/or ability to analyse and synthesize information.

The assessment would be suitable to help students achieve all the learning outcomes of the module and would facilitate the achievements of the learning outcomes of the relevant LLM Programmes as follows:

- LLM International Human Rights Law and Development: LO3, LO5, LOs 10-13
- LLM International Legal Studies: LOs 1-10

Assessment will be by means of individual presentations and assignments

Mode of Assessment			
Type	Method	Description	Weighting
Summative	Coursework - Written	Essay (2500 words)	100%
Formative	Coursework	Answer one of two questions in written essay 750-1000 words	N/A

Reading List
To access the reading list for this module, please visit <a href="https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html">https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html</a>

*Please note:*

*This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.*

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