UNIVERSITY of BRADFORD

Module Descriptor

Module Details	
Module Title	Mining and Critical Minerals Law and Policy (Distance Learning)
Module Code	LAW7096-B
Academic Year	2023/4
Credits	20
School	School of Law
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 7

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Seminars	24
Directed Study	176

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
DLA	University of Bradford / Semester 2

Module Aims

The aim of the module is to develop your knowledge and understanding of some of the key legal issues arising from the mining sector. It provides an overall overview and general understanding of the legal and regulatory framework governing the mining sector, issues relating to large scale mining and Artisanal and small-scale mining, digitalisation in the mining sector, licencing regime, the various mining contracts. The module also addresses the role of critical minerals and the mining sector for the global energy transition, and the social, environmental and governance issues associated with mining.

Outline Syllabus

Introduction to the basic concepts of the mining industry: basic contractual issues, operation, assignment

Ownership, phases of mineral exploration and development; the legal and regulatory framework including the different generation of mining laws; contractual arrangements and licences

Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining; Digitalisation in the mining sector

Critical minerals, the mining sector and the global energy transition

Environmental, social and governance challenges in mining; local content and acquiring a social licence to operate; mining disputes & resolution; mining closure and rehabilitation

Learning Outcomes	
Outcome Number	Description
01	Apply the law relating to mining and critical minerals taking appropriate account of the risks, challenges and emerging issues in the sector.
02	Critically evaluate the main legal rules, institutions and procedures relevant to mining, drawing on specialist literature and current research.
03	Apply your in-depth knowledge and understanding of mining-related case law to new cases and situations.
04	Apply legally based reasoning to answer conflict-based questions, applying the principles and law studied in the module.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

A range of methods will be adopted to direct and support learning on this module. This module will cover material in 12 online sessions (4 synchronous and 8 asynchronous). For each of the lectures you will be asked to carry out some preparatory work which will include reading articles, book chapters and primary legal materials. Your preparation will also include independently researching questions set.

During the lectures there will be some lecturer input and you will be asked to discuss your preparation and work in groups or individually to critique additional materials, debate questions and analyse primary law. There will be follow up work after most lectures to consolidate your learning and help you develop the criticality required at this level.

Your work will be supported by the use of the Virtual Learning Environment including Canvas, where you will find relevant materials. Oral feedback will be given in the class and opportunities for written feedback will be provided. Tutors will be available to meet you individually if requested to discuss further feedback opportunities and review your progress.

Assessment will be by coursework only. This will comprise a written essay-based coursework of 4000 words or equivalent. This will ensure that you are able to apply legally based reasoning to answer conflict-based questions. You will be required to undertake a critical analysis of complex issues in this field applying the principles and law studied in the module. The coursework will require the use of independent research, critical and analytical skills. You will also be expected to use appropriate legal terminology and written communication. The summative assessment is aimed at testing your ability to meet the learning outcomes of the module, while the formative assessment is aimed to monitor the student?s learning and offer feedback.

Mode of Assessment			
Type	Method	Description	Weighting
Summative	Coursework - Written	Essay 0-4000 words	100%
Formative	Coursework	Development Task	N/A

Reading List

To access the reading list for this module, please visit https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html

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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