

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title	International Law
Course Title(s)	LLB (Hons) Law LLB (Hons) Law (Business) LLB (Hons) Law (with Foundation Year) LLB Law (Top Up) BSc (Hons) Criminology and Law
College	College of Society and Professions
School	School of Law and Education
Parent Course (if applicable)	LLB (Hons) Law
Level	6
Semester	1
Module Code	LAW_6_INT
Credit Value	20
Student Study Hours	Total hours: 200 Contact hours: 36 Student managed learning hours: 164
Pre-requisite Module(s) or/and learning	N/a
Co-requisite Module(s)	N/a
Module Leader	TBC
Short Description	This module provides a comprehensive introduction to the foundations of international law, covering sources such as custom and treaties and the relationship between international and municipal systems. Students will evaluate the mechanisms of the UN Charter and treaty organs, alongside regional and bilateral protection strategies. The curriculum further examines the protection of civil, political, and socio-economic rights, addressing complex themes such as state sovereignty, impunity, and transitional justice. Finally, the module looks at some key international law conflicts to disclose their complex nature.
Aims	This module aims to: • Support students to analyse the cultural, economic, political and social background to International Law issues in specific conflict and abuse situations; • Support students to analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of different strategies and procedures for the international protection of human rights; and • Develop students' legal, transferable and practical skills and to develop their capacity to work independently.

Learning Outcomes (Recommended 4 to 6 outcomes)	A. <u>Knowledge and Understanding:</u> A1. Evaluate key legal doctrines and debates in domestic as well as international law, showing awareness of how law develops and responds to change. A2. Analyse how law operates within its social, political, and international contexts, recognising its impact on individuals, communities, and institutions. B. <u>Intellectual Skills:</u> B3. Construct reasoned and evidence-based arguments, drawing on appropriate sources and demonstrating independent judgment. B4. Critically evaluate legal rules, doctrines, and policies, including their limitations, ethical dimensions, and potential for reform. C. <u>Practical Skills:</u> C2. Plan, manage, and complete independent and group-based projects, demonstrating organisation, responsibility, and professional standards. D. <u>Transferable Skills:</u> D1. Work independently and collaboratively, demonstrating leadership, teamwork, managing competing demands and meeting deadlines effectively.
Employability	The module develops students' capacity to identify and address real-world debates and controversies in a research-informed, analytical and inclusive manner. Students are introduced to a variety of cultural, economic, social and political perspectives on international law and related issues and a evaluate these, developing project planning, analysis and communication skills which can be applied in a range of governmental and non-governmental roles, internationally, as well as roles with campaigning organisations, charities and international bodies.
Teaching and Learning Pattern	Lectures Group Work Seminars Tutorials Laboratory Workshops Practical VLE Activities
Indicative Content	This module provides a comprehensive introduction to the legal framework governing the international community. It begins by exploring the fundamental sources of international law, examining how legal obligations are created through treaty law, the development of

	customary international law, and the application of peremptory norms (jus cogens). Building upon these foundations, the curriculum addresses the core principles of state responsibility and the evolution of international human rights law, focusing on the specialized treaty regimes designed to protect individual rights within the global legal order.
Assessment Method	Formative assessment: Preparation throughout the seminars. Summative assessment: <u>CW1 100% Advocacy / Information Pack</u> Each student selects a country and identifies a contemporary breach of a fundamental human right (e.g., arbitrary detention, freedom of expression, torture) or an international law conflict (e.g., sea shelf borders, right to self-determination, arctic/space law). They are asked to create a Country-Based Advocacy Pack or A Conflict Based Information Pack. Students will produce a portfolio resource which explores a contemporary breach of fundamental human rights in a chosen country or an international law conflict. A) Breach Based Advocacy Pack (LO A1; A2; B3; B4, C2; D1) OR B) Conflict Based Information Pack (LO A1; A2; B3; B4, C2; D1) The Pack can consist of 3–4 components. You must select at least one text-based resource. 1. Advocacy Brief / Policy Paper 2. Public Awareness Poster or Infographic 3. Social Media Campaign Plan 4. Op-Ed or Blog Post 5. Short Video / Audio Piece This is not an exhaustive list; suggestions will be updated every year – podcast or interviews with experts could also be a part of the Pack. Students can design their pack depending on their ability, comfort and career aims.
Mode of Resit	Formative assessment: Same as above Summative assessment:

	Same as above
Indicative Sources (Reading lists)	Core materials: Cassese A, <i>Cassese's International Law</i> (Paola Gaeta, Jorge E Viñuales and Salvatore Zappalà eds, Third edition, Oxford University Press 2020) Evans MD (ed), <i>International Law</i> (Sixth edition, Oxford University Press 2024) Optional reading: Smith RKM, <i>International Human Rights Law</i> (Tenth edition, Oxford University Press 2021)
Other Learning Resources	Students will be directed to other resources, including key journals, on the Moodle sit and OUP Law Trove. Amnesty International http://www.amnesty.org Human Rights Watch http://www.hrw.org UN High Commission for Human Rights http://www.ohchr.org