MODULE SPECIFICATION

Name of Module	Introduction to International Humanitarian Law				
Parent School/Dept	Political Science & International Relations				
Programme(s) where module is offered	BSc Political Science and International Relations				
Status (core, option, free choice)	Option		Pre-Requisite Modules or Qualifications	Completion of year 1-3 modules	
FHEQ Level	5	Unit Value	8 ECTS	Module Code	PS472	Module coordinator	Nedzad Smailagic
Semester taught	Autumn			Applicable From	2016

Educational Aims of the Module

This module touches upon the rules on the legality of warfare (ius ad bellum), but the main focus is on the rules that apply when an armed conflict is going on (ius in bello), irrespective of the nature of the conflict. It examines the history and sources of international humanitarian law, its relationship with the ius ad bellum, and the basic principles that have governed its development. It will also examine a range of contemporary challenges to the law of armed conflict such as the problems inherent in and importance of classifying conflicts, privileged and unprivileged belligerents, the protection of the civilian population, and the regulation of means and methods of warfare. Emphasis will also be placed upon the relationship between international humanitarian law and human rights law. Accordingly, after completion of this course, students will understand the relationships between international human rights law and humanitarian law and its significance in world politics, international relations and prosecution of crimes (International criminal law).

This course is designed for undergraduate minor programme in International Law and is recommended for students, who already have a basic knowledge of general international law and who are interested in acquiring additional theoretical knowledge and practical skills in the area of international humanitarian and criminal law.

Module Outline/Syllabus

1. International humanitarian law – notion, historical development and legal basis
2. Scope of application of IHL; Relationship between IHL and IHRL
3. Combatants and Non-Combatants; Means and Methods of Combat
4. Protection of the Civilian Population; Protection of the Wounded, Sick, and Shipwrecked
5. Protection of Prisoners in Armed Conflict; Protection of Cultural Property; Protection of Religious Personnel
6. The Law of Neutrality; The Law of Non-International Armed Conflict
7. Review week
8. Mid-term exam
9. Implementation and enforcement of international humanitarian law
10. Introduction to international criminal law
11. Jurisdiction and immunities in International criminal law
12. International crimes I
13. International courts dealing with international criminal cases
14. Case reflection: Selected topics concerning the role of the ICTY
15. Course review

Student Engagement Hours			
Type	Number per Term	Duration	Total Time
Lecture	30	2 hours	60
Tutorials	30	1 hour	30
Total Guided/Independent Learning Hours			110

	Total Contact Hours	90
	Total Engagement Hours	**200**

Assessment Method Summary				
Type	**Number Required**	**Duration / Length**	**Weighting**	**Timing/Submission Deadline**
Presentation, participation and discussion	1	1 hour	10%	Week 5
Research paper	1	2000 words	20%	Week 11
Mid-term exam	1	2 hours	20%	Mid-semester
Final written exam	1	3 hours	50%	End of semester

Module Outcomes

Intended Learning Outcomes:

1. Knowledge and understanding of the nature, significance and sources of international humanitarian law.
2. Knowledge and understanding of the relationship between International humanitarian law (IHL) and human rights law (IHRL), as well as of the relationship between *ius in bello* and *ius ad bellum*.
3. Knowledge and understanding of the difference between international and non-international armed conflicts.
4. Knowledge and understanding of basic rules of IHL applicable in armed conflicts and the role of the ICRC.
5. Knowledge and understanding of the implementation and enforcement of IHL.
6. Basic knowledge and understanding of International criminal law, international crimes, criminal jurisdiction, institutions and procedures.

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Teaching and Learning Strategy:

1. Course readings and class discussion (ILO: 1-6)
2. Individual and group presentations and discussions. (ILO: 1-6)
3. Class reviews and homework. (ILO: 1-6)
4. Lecture/presentation by the instructor (ILO: 1-6)
5. Individual discussions/tutorials with students as needed and detailed feedback on their writings. (ILO: 1- 6)

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Assessment Strategy

1. Class participation, oral presentation and discussion (ILO:1-6)
2. Research paper (ILO:1-5)
3. Midterm exam (ILO:1-5)
4. Final Exam (ILO:1-6)

Practical Skills

1. To understand and be able to apply rules of international law applicable during situations of armed conflict; the interplay between international human rights law, international criminal law, and the law of armed conflict.
2. To solve hypothetical cases in international law by applying IHL rules.
3. To understand the impact of IHL and ICL on the conduct of international actors.

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Teaching and Learning Strategy:

1. Course readings and class discussion (PS:1,3)
2. Individual and group presentations and discussions. (PS:1-3)
3. Class reviews and homework (PS:2)
4. Lectures/presentations by the instructor (PS:1-3)
5. Individual discussions/tutorials with students as needed and detailed feedback on their writings. (PS:1-3)

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Assessment Strategy

1. Class participation, oral presentation and discussion (PS:1-3)
2. Research paper (PS:1-3)
3. Midterm exam (PS:1-3)
4. Final Exam (PS:1-3)

| **Transferable Skills**

1. Presentation and argumentation skills
2. Critical-thinking and analytical skills
3. Research skills | $\longrightarrow$ | **Teaching and Learning Strategy:**

1. Course readings and class discussion (TS:1-3)
2. Individual and group presentations and discussions. (TS:1-2)
3. Class reviews and homework (TS:1-3)
4. Lectures/presentations by the instructor (TS:1-3)
5. Individual discussions/tutorials with students as needed and detailed feedback on their writings. (TS:1-3) |
| | $\longrightarrow$ | **Assessment Strategy**

1. Class participation, oral presentation and discussion (TS:1-3)
2. Research paper (TS:1-3)
3. Midterm exam (TS:1-3)
4. Final Exam (TS:1-3) |

Key Texts and/or other learning materials

Key Texts:
- Dieter, F., (2014), *The Handbook of International Humanitarian Law*, 3rd Edition, Oxford University Press
- F. Karlshoven, L. Zegveld, (2011), *Constraints on the Waging of War*, Cambridge University Press
- Crawford, J., (2012), Brownlie's *Principles of International Law,* 8th Edition, Oxford University Press

Supplementary Resources:
- Ian Brownlie, (2008), *Principles of Public International Law*, 7th edition, Oxford University Press
- Malcolm N. Shaw, (2014), International Law, 7th edition, Cambridge University Press
- ICRC, (2015), The Geneva Conventions of 1949, available at https://www.icrc.org/eng/assets/files/publications/icrc-002-0173.pdf
- Brown, S., (1915), *The Hague Conventions of 1899 and 1907,* available at https://archive.org/details/hagueconventions00inteuoft
- Sandoz, Yves, Christophe Swinarski and Bruno Zimmermann (editors): (1987), Commentary on the Additional Protocols of 8 June 1977 to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, Geneva, 1987

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the module and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching, learning and assessment methods of each module and programme can be found in the departmental or programme handbook. The accuracy of the information contained in this document is reviewed annually by the University of Buckingham and may be checked by the Quality Assurance Agency.

Date of Production	
Date approved by School Learning and Teaching Committee	
Date approved by School Board of Study	
Date approved by University Learning and Teaching Committee	
Date of Annual Review	