LA205-30 International Law

22/23

Department
> School of Law

Level
> Undergraduate Level 2

Module leader
> Catherine Briddick

Credit value
> 30

Module duration
> 20 weeks

Assessment
> 40% coursework, 60% exam

Study location
> University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module will cover the main principles, norms and institutions of international law with an emphasis on the political, economic, social, and cultural context in which they operate.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

This module aims to create a sensitivity for the complicity of international law in global inequality by foregrounding issues pertaining to the Global South. While the module covers essential topics such as the sources and subjects of international law, not all aspects of international law will be considered. The selected topics have been chosen on the basis of topicality and pedagogical utility.

Two recurring themes guide the course materials, namely imperialism and crisis. These themes have been chosen to reflect the importance of history as shaping the present. International law demonstrates and constitutes biases of race, class, and gender which are rooted in its history of hegemony. Although this commonly aligns international law with imperialism, it also creates ruptures and possibilities of resistance.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

The syllabus is divided into two parts, with the first part covering the foundational principles, institutions and rationale of international law, and the second part covering specialised sub-disciplines.

1. The Nature and History of International Law
2. Sources of International Law
3. The Law of Treaties
4. Subjects of International Law
5. Self-determination
6. The Law of Responsibility
7. Jurisdiction & Immunities
8. The Individual in International Law
9. International Courts and Tribunals & Fragmentation
10. Ius ad bellum (Use of force)
11. Ius in bello (International Humanitarian Law)
12. International Criminal Law
13. Sanctions and Counter-measures
14. International Economic Law
15. International Environmental Law
16. Soft Law
17. Domestic Law and International Law Intertwined
18. Global Constitutionalism

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- To provide students with an understanding of the general principles of International Law and the relation of International Law to social, political, cultural, economic and historical factors
- To equip students with an understanding of the methodology of International Law, and the processes of legal argument and analysis
- To think critically and objectively about the impact of International Law in constructing the realitiesof their lives and their surroundings
- Understand the nature of international society, the basic concepts and structure of International Law and be able to use a wide variety of materials (legal and other) to inform their analysis
- Understand the historical, social, political and economic contexts in which international law exists and develops, and the impact of these developments on populations around the world
- Analyse, evaluate and form critical judgements on cases, treaties and other legal texts
- Apply international law to hypothetical cases involving international legal issues
- Work independently to gain understanding of materials/issues in International Law without explanatorynotes/lectures
- Understand the language of international law, be able to speak and write about international law with accurateuse of specific terms
- Work collaboratively to complete defined tasks within a limited time

- Frequent use of the Internet to access source materials

Indicative reading list

Malcolm Evans, International Law (OUP)

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

International

The module explores cross-border issues (conflict, climate change, trade) and their relationship to law.

Subject specific skills

The module will assist students in acquiring critical analysis skills that take the international legal sphere into account. This includes an understanding of how international law and legal institutions are constituted, and who the laws and institutions benefit. A specific skill that is supported is to understand international law and its institutions in their political context, in particular in the context of a neoliberal order and how this was historically constituted.

Transferable skills

A critical analysis that shifts from the local to the global is a key transferable skill. Understanding law as constituted by the particular historical juncture is a key means of expanding the understanding of social justice and injustice.

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	36 sessions of 1 hour (12%)
Seminars	14 sessions of 1 hour (5%)
Private study	250 hours (83%)
Total	300 hours

Private study description

No private study requirements defined for this module.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group D8

	Weighting	Study time
2500 Word Essay	40%	

Students will choose one from a list of provided topics. Students will also include an essay self-assessment sheet.

	Weighting	Study time
Online Examination	60%	

Students will answer two questions from a selection.

~Platforms - AEP

- Online examination: No Answerbook required

Feedback on assessment

Essay feedback will be provided via Tabula. Face to face feedback for the exam by student request in October. Generic feedback for the exam provided via Moodle.

[Past exam papers for LA205](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Optional for:

- UIBA-MN34 Law and Business Four Year (Qualifying Degree)
    - Year 3 of MN34 Law and Business Studies Four Year (Qualifying Degree)
    - Year 4 of MN34 Law and Business Studies Four Year (Qualifying Degree)
- UECA-3 Undergraduate Economics 3 Year Variants
    - Year 2 of L116 Economics and Industrial Organization
    - Year 2 of L116 Economics and Industrial Organization
- ULAA-M300 Undergraduate Law
    - Year 2 of M300 Law

- ○ Year 3 of M300 Law
- ULAA-M105 Undergraduate Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 2 of M105 Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 2 of M105 Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 3 of M105 Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 3 of M105 Law (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
- ULAA-M106 Undergraduate Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 2 of M106 Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 3 of M106 Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 4 of M106 Law (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
- ULAA-M104 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad)
  - ○ Year 2 of M104 Law (Year Abroad)
  - ○ Year 4 of M104 Law (Year Abroad)
- ULAA-M108 Undergraduate Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 2 of M108 Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 2 of M108 Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 4 of M108 Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 4 of M108 Law (Year Abroad) (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 3 of UIBA-MN31 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies
- UIBA-MN32 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies
  - ○ Year 3 of MN32 Law and Business Studies (Four-Year)
  - ○ Year 4 of MN32 Law and Business Studies (Four-Year)
- UIBA-MN37 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies (Qualifying Degree) with Intercalated Year
  - ○ Year 4 of MN37 Law and Business Studies (Qualifying Degree) with Intercalated Year
  - ○ Year 5 of MN37 Law and Business Studies (Qualifying Degree) with Intercalated Year
- UIBA-MN35 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (3+1)
  - ○ Year 3 of MN35 Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (3+1)
  - ○ Year 4 of MN35 Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (3+1)
- UIBA-MN36 Undergraduate Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (4+1)
  - ○ Year 4 of MN36 Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (4+1)
  - ○ Year 5 of MN36 Law and Business Studies with Intercalated Year (4+1)
- Year 3 of ULAA-ML33 Undergraduate Law and Sociology
- Year 2 of ULAA-M10A Undergraduate Law with French Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M10C Undergraduate Law with German Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 3 of ULAA-M110 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (3 Year)
- ULAA-M113 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (4 Year) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 2 of M113 Law with Humanities (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 3 of M113 Law with Humanities (4 year) (Qualifying Degree)
- ULAA-M115 Undergraduate Law with Social Sciences (3 Year) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 2 of M115 Law with Social Sciences (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
  - ○ Year 2 of M115 Law with Social Sciences (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)

This module is Core option list A for:

- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
  - ○ Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law

◦ Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law

This module is Core option list D for:

- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
  ◦ Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
  ◦ Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law

This module is Option list A for:

- Year 4 of ULAA-M10A Undergraduate Law with French Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 4 of ULAA-M10C Undergraduate Law with German Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 4 of ULAA-M113 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (4 Year) (Qualifying Degree)
- ULAA-M115 Undergraduate Law with Social Sciences (3 Year) (Qualifying Degree)
  ◦ Year 3 of M115 Law with Social Sciences (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)
  ◦ Year 3 of M115 Law with Social Sciences (3 year) (Qualifying Degree)

This module is Option list B for:

- ULAA-ML34 BA in Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
  ◦ Year 3 of ML34 Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
  ◦ Year 4 of ML34 Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 5 of ULAA-ML35 BA in Law and Sociology (Qualifying Degree) (with Intercalated year)
- Year 4 of ULAA-ML33 Undergraduate Law and Sociology

This module is Option list E for:

- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
  ◦ Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
  ◦ Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law