

LA205-30 International Law

24/25

Department

School of Law

Level

Undergraduate Level 2

Module leader

Catherine Briddick

Credit value

30

Module duration

20 weeks

Assessment

100% 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

Students will learn about the main principles, norms and institutions of public international law. The module also seeks 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. Certain themes run through these topics, such as imperialism and crisis, which reflect the importance of history as shaping the present.

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 roughly 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. While specific topics may change year to year, an indicative syllabus of topics includes:

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 International Protection of Human Rights
9. Domestic and International Law
10. Sanctions, Countermeasures, and Collective Security
11. *Ius ad bellum* (Use of force)
12. *Ius in bello* (International Humanitarian Law)
13. International Criminal Law
14. International Economic Law
15. Piracy in International Law
16. International Environmental Law
17. Feminist Approaches to International Law
18. Marxist and Third World Approaches to International Law

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 realities of 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 explanatory notes/lectures
- Understand the language of international law, be able to speak and write about international law with accurate use of specific terms

Indicative reading list

Malcolm Evans, *International Law* (OUP) James Crawford and Martti Koskenniemi (eds), *The Cambridge Companion to International Law* (CUP) Antony Angie, *Imperialism, Sovereignty and the Making of International Law* (CUP)

[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 must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Students can register for this module without taking any assessment.

Assessment group B

	Weighting	Study time
Online Examination	100%	
Students will answer two questions from a selection.		
~Platforms - AEP		

- Online examination: No Answerbook required

Feedback on assessment

Individual exam feedback will be provided electronically. 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
- Year 2 of ULAA-M130 Undergraduate Law
- 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)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M131 Undergraduate Law (4 Year)
- 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)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M132 Undergraduate 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-M133 Undergraduate Law with French Law
- Year 2 of ULAA-M10A Undergraduate Law with French Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M134 Undergraduate Law with German Law
- Year 2 of ULAA-M10C Undergraduate Law with German Law (Qualifying Degree)
- Year 3 of ULAA-M110 Undergraduate Law with Humanities (3 Year)
- Year 2 of ULAA-M136 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)
- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law

- Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
- Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
- Year 3 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
- Year 3 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
- Year 4 of UPHA-V7MX Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law (with Intercalated Year)

This module is Unusual option for:

- UPHA-V7MW Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 2 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 3 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
 - Year 3 of V7MW Politics, Philosophy and Law
- Year 4 of UPHA-V7MX Undergraduate Politics, Philosophy and Law (with Intercalated Year)

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