

LA9FN-20 Foundations of International Commercial Law

24/25

Department

School of Law

Level

Taught Postgraduate Level

Module leader

Christian Twigg-Flesner

Credit value

20

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

This module is the core module for the LLM in International Commercial Law and examines the nature of ICL, the way ICL is created, and covers selected areas of ICL.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

The aim of this module is to introduce students to fundamental legal issues affecting international commercial transactions. There will be 3 broad strands to this:

- (i) the specific issues associated with international commercial contracts;
- (ii) the different instruments and institutions, the process of harmonisation, and the lex mercatoria;
- (iii) specific areas such as agency, security interest in mobile equipment

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.

What is International Commercial Law?

Practical Challenges of International Commerce

Theories of International Commercial Law

Commercial Dispute Resolution: PIL and Arbitration

Making international commercial law: instruments and institutions

The challenge of interpreting international conventions

Harmonisation of International Commercial Law

Using Contracts in International Commercial Law

Standard Trade Terms (e.g., INCOTERMS)

Lex Mercatoria - myth or useful concept?

Security Interests in Mobile Equipment: Cape Town Convention

UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts

Receivables financing

The Agency Convention

Leasing

Challenges for International Commercial Law: Digitalisation, Sustainability, global value chains and ethics

Learning outcomes

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

- Knowledge and Understanding of the nature of International Commercial Law
- Knowledge and Understanding of selected substantive areas of law
- Ability to evaluate and critique legal developments and associated academic debates

Indicative reading list

To follow

[View reading list on Talis Aspire](#)

Subject specific skills

Gaining an understanding of key elements of International Commercial Law and an appreciation of how law can be utilised to address specific obstacles to international commercial activity

Transferable skills

Evaluation of source materials

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Seminars	9 sessions of 3 hours (14%)
Private study	170 hours (85%)
Assessment	3 hours (2%)
Total	200 hours

Private study description

Guided reading after lectures and in preparation for seminars
Preparation for seminars
Formative coursework
Revision for final exam

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group B3

	Weighting	Study time
Examination	100%	3 hours

An open book exam to be completed within the specified period.

Feedback on assessment

Generic feedback will be provided via Moodle, with individual feedback via Tabula.

[Past exam papers for LA9FN](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of TLAA-M223 Postgraduate Taught International Commercial Law

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of TLAA-M223 Postgraduate Taught International Commercial Law

This module is Optional for:

- Year 1 of TIMA-L981 Postgraduate Social Science Research
- Year 1 of TLAA-M3PJ Postgraduate Taught Advanced Legal Studies
- Year 1 of TLAS-M3P7 Postgraduate Taught International Economic Law
- Year 1 of TLAS-M221 Postgraduate Taught LLM in International Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation

This module is Core option list A for:

- Year 1 of TLAA-M3PJ Postgraduate Taught Advanced Legal Studies
- Year 1 of TLAS-M3P7 Postgraduate Taught International Economic Law
- Year 1 of TLAS-M221 Postgraduate Taught LLM in International Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation