


Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	International Criminal Law
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	7
4	Module Code	LAW7123

5	Module Overview
<p>The importance of international criminal law has grown considerably in recent years. Similarly to domestic criminal law, international criminal law aims to prohibit and penalise certain actions when committed by individuals. Unlike domestic criminal law however, the crimes that concern international community are particularly serious: prohibitions such as genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and aggression involve conduct that is capable of affecting large numbers of the world's population. As such international criminal law is also relevant to study of international human rights, in that it establishes an additional accountability mechanism and protection to some of the most fundamental rights such as life, liberty, and security of the person.</p> <p>This module aims to equip you with in-depth knowledge and understanding of some of the key concepts, principles, rules and standards of international criminal law. Starting from historical and conceptual overview of this vast and growing field, we will proceed to examine national and international responses to international criminal law violations, definition and content of the core crimes, principles of individual responsibility in international criminal law including available defences, enforcement of sentencing, and alternatives to criminal prosecution. The module is interdisciplinary in the way it evaluates international criminal law in the context of issues of history, politics and human rights. The international focus of this module is in line with the programme's aim of internationalisation.</p> <p>This module will be delivered through face-to-face teaching and VLE provision On campus students will attend weekly student-led/tutor-facilitated seminars and complete various activities. Distance learning students will complete weekly VLE activities.</p> <p>The teaching is designed with the view to promote your use of analytical and synthetical skills in mastering the material. All topics within the module are studied at an advanced level with many issues not having a "black and white" answer or solution, as such at every corner you will be given the opportunity and encouraged to think about, analyse and give justified opinions. The teaching sessions are interactive focusing on critical discussion and argument, allowing you to practice oral expression of your analysis while participating in debates and delivering presentations, and developing your employability skills. Independent study is thus central to success in the module: you are required to continuously engage with advanced academic literature in preparation to seminars and in working towards summative assessment.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
	<div style="text-align: right;">  BIRMINGHAM CITY University </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The concept, history and development of international criminal law • National responses to international crimes • The Ad hoc International Criminal Tribunals • International Criminal Court • Alternatives to criminal prosecution • Genocide • Crimes against humanity • War crimes • Aggression • Individual responsibility in international criminal law • Defences • State corporation and enforcement of sentences

7		Module Learning Outcomes
On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:		
	1	Identify and distinguish at the level of detail the key concepts, principles, and institutions of international criminal law, including their origins, limits and potential.
	2	Critically analyse issues pertaining to international criminal law, and to develop and sustain a convincing argument.
	3	Conduct an independent and advanced legal and academic research in international criminal law, drawing from a wide array of sources including case law, other primary materials, and scholarly critique.
	4	Communicate complex ideas clearly and effectively in writing, maintaining coherent structure and a balanced organisation of information and argument, and paying close attention to professional legal and academic standards of style and presentation.

8				Module Assessment
Learning Outcome				
		Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1 - 4		X		

9		Breakdown Learning and Teaching Activities
Learning Activities	Hours	
Scheduled Learning (SL) includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, peer group learning, Graduate+, as specified in timetable	24	
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE	24	
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams	152	
Total Study Hours:	200	