

Module Specification

Module Summary Information

1	Module Title	America and International Legal Issues
2	Module Credits	20
3	Module Level	6
4	Module Code	LAW6073

5	Module Overview
America & International Legal Issues is an optional module that is required to be undertaken as part of your pathway to provide an opportunity to study how America engages with specific aspects of international law and its foreign relations.	
<p>You will study how America interacts with international law by reviewing a series of case studies covering aspects of human rights law, environmental law, international trade law, international criminal law and humanitarian law. This module will examine how America's legal order has responded to the lack of 'outward-facing' provisions in the US Constitution; providing you with an opportunity to analyse how America views international law and how it seeks to avoid influential international legal developments.</p> <p>This module is interdisciplinary, in that it contextualises America's interaction with an array of interesting international legal aspects and how these affect the relationships of America with the rest of the world. This module places a strong emphasis on problem-based learning by analysing case studies which capture the authentic exercise of foreign relations in America, this is very much in line with the philosophy and aims of the programme.</p> <p>This module will be delivered through weekly lectures, seminars and prescribed Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) activities on Moodle.</p>	

6	Indicative Content
The US as Promoter of International Human Rights: The United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights	
American Exceptionalism and the Problem of RUDs	
The Federal Constitution and the Status of Treaty Law	
SCOTUS and the Status of Foreign Human Rights Precedents	
The US and Specific Human Rights Issues: How Does the US Measure Up?	
The US and the ICJ	
Does the US Need an Equality Act?	
The US and the Rights of the Child	
Economic Social and Cultural Rights	
The US and International Environmental Law	
The US and Climate Change	
The rise of US trade influence through BITs, MITs and ISDS	
Trade influence and regulatory cooperation	

7	Module Learning Outcomes		
	On successful completion of the module, students will be able to:		
	1 Critically assess how the US interacts with the international community in specific areas of the law.		
	2 Critically analyse how the constitutional basis of US law influences its attitudes to external legal orders and norms.		
	3 Evaluate the influence and importance of the US in the development of international law.		
	4 Present arguments in a cogent, articulate and well-informed manner that demonstrates a high level of skill in legal research and critical analysis.		

8	Module Assessment		
Learning Outcome			
	Coursework	Exam	In-Person
1, 2, 3, 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		36	
Directed Learning (DL) includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning, as directed on VLE		36	
Private Study (PS) includes preparation for exams		128	
Total Study Hours:		200	