

Module 26: International Human Rights Law

Stage		3					
Semester		1 or 2					
Module Title		LLBH- IHRL					
Module Number		24					
Module Status		Elective					
Module ECTS Credits		5					
Module NFQ level		8					
Pre-Requisite Module Titles		None					
Co-Requisite Module Titles		None					
Capstone Module?		No					
List of Module Teaching Personnel		Lynne McDonagh					
Contact Hours				Non-contact Hours			Total Effort (hours)
24				76			100
Lecture	Practical	Tutorial	Seminar	Assignment	Placement	Independent Work	
24				20		56	100
Allocation of Marks (Within the Module)							
	Continuous Assessment	Project	Practical	Final Examination	Total		
Percentage Contribution	30			70	100		

Intended Module Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this module, learners will be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the normative and historical origins of human rights law.
2. Analyse the international and European human rights systems for the protection of human rights.
3. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the human rights law applying to selected issues.
4. Analyse human rights law in terms of its effectiveness, its impact and its legitimacy.
5. Research, interpret and apply the various legal rules and principles of International Human Rights Law

Module Objectives

1. To enable the learner to examine the history, development, structure and efficacy of the international human rights law framework.
2. To familiarise learners with the legal framework of the United Nations and of regional systems with regard to the promotion and protection of human rights.
3. To enable learners to examine the legal provisions in action and to examine specific violations
4. To develop within learners an understanding of the system of remedies which are available where rights are violated.

Module Curriculum

- Introduction and history of international human rights law.
- Cultural relativism and universalism.
- Protection of human rights within the UN System and regional systems.
- Civil and Political Rights:
 - Prohibition of Torture and (other) Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment
 - The Right to Life,
 - Freedom of Expression and Religious Freedom.
- Economic, Social and Cultural Rights:
 - Right to housing
 - Discrimination.

Reading lists and other learning materials

Primary Reading:

Alston, P. & Goodman, R. (2012) *International Human Rights*. Oxford: OUP

Dickson (1997) *Human Rights and the European Convention*. London: Sweet & Maxwell

Ghandhi, S. (2012) *Blackstone's International Human Rights Documents*. Oxford: OUP

Harris, O'Boyle & Warbrick (2009) *Law of the European Convention on Human Rights*

Oxford: OUP

Steiner, Alston & Goodman (2008) *International Human Rights Law in Context: Law, Politics, Morals*. Oxford: OUP

Wallace (2001) *International Human Rights: Text and Materials*. London: Sweet & Maxwell

Secondary Reading:

Cassese, A. (2013) *International Criminal Law*. Oxford: OUP

Harris, D. et al. (2010) *International Human Rights*. Oxford: OUP

Kilkelly U. (2009) *The ECHR and Irish Law*. Bristol: Jordan's

Mowbray, A. (2012) *Cases, Materials and Commentary on the European Convention on Human Rights*. Oxford: OUP

Rehman, J. (2002) *International Human Rights Law: A Practical Approach*. Harlow: Pearson Education

White, R. & Ovey, C. (2010) *The European Convention in Human Rights*. Oxford: OUP

Module Learning Environment

Accommodation

Lectures and workshops take place in a classroom setting. Participants also have access to online teaching resources and Moodle

Library

All learners have access to an extensive range of “physical” and “remote access” library resources. The library monitors and updates its resources on an on-going basis, in line with the College’s Library Acquisition Policy. Lecturers collaborate with the library in updating reading lists for this course on an annual basis as is the norm with all programmes run by Griffith College.

Module Teaching and Learning Strategy

This module is delivered through a series of lectures which consist of tutorial-style discussions, group work sessions and exercises. The lectures are supplemented by structured on-line resources and reading. The final two lectures consist of workshops seeking to directly enforce the module learning outcomes by engagement of practical application of the law of international human rights to factual scenarios.

Learners also engage in collaborative work in pairs or groups to brainstorm what learning has been achieved at the end of lectures. In order to support learners through the exam process they engage in the answering of sample exam questions and correction of their own or peers papers, thereby familiarising themselves with the marking criteria. Learners also engage in activities whereby they draft their own exam question in order to recap and reconsolidate a particular topic.

Module Assessment Strategy

Theoretical knowledge is assessed through submission of a written assignment worth 40% and by an end of module examination worth 60% of the total marks in this subject.

Element No.	Weighting	Type	Description	Module Learning outcomes
1	30%	Assignment	The assignment requires research and structured argument relating to some practical aspect of International Human Rights Law.	5
2	70%	Exam	The examination consists of a choice of both essay and problem style questions. Essay style questions place emphasis on the learners' demonstrating their understanding of the fundamental principles of International Human Rights Law thereby assessing learning outcomes 1, 2 and 4. Problem style questions enable learners to apply principles of revenue law to a factual scenario, thereby assessing learning outcome 3. Formative assessment is provided in the form of interactive exercises such as directed class discussion topics and reference current affairs pertaining to International Human Rights law at the time of instruction.	1-4

Sample Assessment with Rubrics - see Annex 2