

Module 2: Public International Law

Stage	1				
Semester	1				
Module Title	Public International Law				
Module Number/Reference	LLM-PIL				
Module Status (Mandatory/Elective)	Mandatory				
Module ECTS credit	10				
Module NFQ level (only if applicable)	9				
Pre-requisite Module Titles	N/A				
Co-requisite Module Titles	Advanced Legal Research and Writing				
Is this a capstone module? (Yes or No)	No				
List of Module Teaching Personnel	Lynne McDonagh				
Contact Hours				Non-contact Hours	Total Effort (Hours)
Lecture	Practical	Tutorial	Seminar	Assignment	Placement
30					170 200
Allocation of Marks (Within the Module)					
	Continuous Assessment	Project	Practical	Final Exam	Total
Percentage contribution	50			50	100

Intended Module Learning Outcomes

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

1. Critically analyse and evaluate Public International law and the philosophical, political and economic structures underpinning it
2. Apply advanced theoretical knowledge and in-depth critical thinking to suggest credible and creative solutions to various Public International legal problems
3. Demonstrate detailed knowledge and in-depth understanding of Public International Law and show a systematic, integrated and critical awareness of specific aspects of the subject through the completion of specialised examinations and course work
4. Demonstrate through research an integrated systematic and critical awareness of seminal original work within the various subject elements of Public International Law
5. Synthesise and conceptualise a holistic picture of the various Public International law elements.
6. Identify, select and apply appropriately creative solutions to complex Public International Law legal issues
7. Debate and question complex Public International Law legal issues and concepts, effectively and excellently

Module Objectives

Public International Law is concerned with both the relations between States and with the relationship between individuals, international organisations and States. This module enables the learner to understand and evaluate Public International Law and its role, potential and limitations in International affairs. It enables learners to identify the sources of Public International Law and develop their ability to apply these appropriately to a range of actual and theoretical situations. The module examines the operation of international organisations such as the United Nations and their impact on the wider principles of International Law. Learners gain an understanding of the formation and formalisation of international treaties and an awareness of the principles of State sovereignty. The module addresses a number of current legal issues in the development of international law and Learners become familiarised with the treaties on which International Law is based, the rules of Customary International Law and a knowledge of the institutions which apply International Law.

Module Aims (to provide learners with)

- an understanding of the manner in which treaties and international agreements are negotiated, formalised and ratified
- an insight into the key aspects of Customary International Law
- a detailed understanding of the principles of Public International Law
- the ability to locate the sources and apply in practice the principles of Public International Law
- the capacity to recognise how international organisations operate
- the ability to analyse the different fora in which International Law is enforced

Module Curriculum

- Topic 1: Historical Development of Public International Law
- Topic 2: International Legal Personality: the state, international organisations and individuals.
- Topic 3: Sources of Public International Law: Custom, Treaties and Convention
- Topic 4: The Law of Treaties
- Topic 5: The Relationship between International Law and Municipal Law
- Topic 6: International Legal Personality: States
- Topic 7: International Legal Personality: Subjects and International Organisations
- Topic 8: Jurisdiction
- Topic 9: Self-Defence and the Use of Force
- Topic 10: Revision and Restatement of Key Principles

Reading lists and other learning material

Armstrong, D., Lloyd, L. & Redmond, J., *International Organisations in World Politics* (3rd ed., Palgrave, 2005)

Bowett, D.W., Klein, P. & Sands, P., *Bowett's Law of International Institutions* (5th ed., Sweet & Maxwell, 2001)

Brownlie, I.QC., *Basic Documents in International Law* (6th ed., Oxford University Press, 2008).

Brownlie, I.QC., James Crawford, *Principles of Public International Law* (8th ed., Oxford University Press, 2012)

Cassese, A., *International Law* (2nd ed., Oxford University Press, 2004)

Dixon, M., *Textbook on International Law* (6th ed., Oxford University Press, 2007)

Evans, M.D., *Blackstone's International Law Documents* (11th ed., Oxford University Press, 2013)

Gareis, S.B. & Varwick, J., *The UN: An Introduction* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2005)

Harris, D., *Cases and Materials on International Law* (7th ed., Sweet & Maxwell, 2010)

Kennedy, P., *The Parliament of Man: The UN and the Quest for World Government*, (Penguin, 2006)

LeRoy Bennett, A. & Oliver, J.K., *International Organisations: Principles and Issues* (7th ed., Prentice Hall, 2001)

Shaw, M.N., *International Law* (6th ed., Cambridge University Press, 2008)

Module Learning Environment

A learning environment that promotes collaborative learning is promoted and learners are encouraged to actively engage in all class discussions and exercises.

Module Teaching and Learning Strategy

The module is delivered by means of structured and participative style lectures. The learners are assigned reading the week previous to each class, and some learners are asked to lead the discussion of the material.

Learners who have been asked to discuss a particular article are expected to provide a typed summary of the key points within the article (1-2 pages). This must be emailed to the lecturer and uploaded on Moodle for the benefit of the entire class.

The lecturer arranges for an International Law expert to deliver a talk to the learners.

Range of modes of direct contact

Teaching consists of weekly lectures for which learners are expected to have previously completed assigned reading and prepared draft answers to certain questions. In addition, learners are expected to present individually and in groups on various topics assigned to them throughout the semester.

Total contact hours: 30 Hours

Range of other learning methods

Independent learning and research supported with on line resources available through Moodle.

Total non-contact hours: 170 Hours

Module Assessment Strategy

Assessment Methods			
Element number	Weighting	Type	Description
1	50	Continuous Assessment	<p>4,000-5,000 word essay</p> <p>Learners are expected to present an individual piece of course work within this module. Learners are expected to critically assess issues, for example, the application of international law to a specific legal issue or situation.</p> <p>Learners are expected to address a wide range of relevant case law, Treaty provisions, secondary legislation, academic commentary or institutional documents and to develop a holistic and sophisticated understanding of Public International Law.</p>
2	50	Examination	Closed book examination: a 3 hour exam which covers the breadth of the course and requires learners to answer 3 questions out of 6, testing their ability to apply knowledge learned throughout the module.

Diagnostic/ formative assessment

Feedback through formative assessment will support learners taking control of their own learning.

Further information on assessment

Marking criteria are distributed to learners with each assignment brief. These are used to provide learner direction on all summative assessments.

Assessment Strategy		
Module Learning Outcome	Element 1	Element 2
1. Critically analyse and evaluate Public International law and the philosophical, political and economic structures underpinning it	✓	✓
2. Apply advanced theoretical knowledge and in depth critical thinking to suggest credible and creative solutions to various Public International legal problems	✓	✓
3. Demonstrate detailed knowledge and in-depth understanding of Public International Law principles and show a systematic integrated and critical awareness of specific aspects of the subject through the completion of specialised examinations and course work	✓	✓
4. Demonstrate through research an integrated systematic and critical awareness of seminal original work within the various subject elements of Public International Law	✓	
5. Synthesise and conceptualise a holistic picture of the various Public International Law elements.	✓	✓
6. Identify, select and apply appropriately creative solutions to complex Public International Law factual scenarios		✓
7. Debate and Question complex Public International Law legal issues and concepts effectively and excellently	✓	

Please see **Annex 2** for Faculty Marking Criteria Guidelines and **Annex 3** for Sample Examinations and Continuous Assessment along with Marking Criteria