



Module code	IBL	NQF level	7
Credit value	20	Study duration	12 weeks

International Business Law

Module description

International Business Law module is a 20 credit compulsory module in International Business Law programme. Trade liberalisation and the rapid expansion of exporting in goods, combined with the technological enhancement of business relationships, have increased the number of international conventions and supranational responses to globalization. Businesspersons and lawyers should not only be familiar with general principles of transnational contract law, but also incorporate those conventions and standards in international business transactions. Such resources are a good way of overcoming cultural, language, and legal differences in cross-border transactions. International legal unification and harmonisation will reduce transaction costs of international contracting. The International Business Law module is concerned with the person-to-person transactional relationship across national borders. Three particular areas will be examined in this module:

- general principles of international commercial contracts
- principles of international trade finance
- principles of commercial agency.

This module aims to:

- Develop an understanding of the relationship between the practice of international business and law
- Analyse the international legal instruments necessary for conducting business across national borders
- Develop an understanding and appreciation of the legal complexities of preparing and executing international business transactions.

Learning outcomes

On completion of this module, students will be able to:

- Identify and critically evaluate the key legal instruments affecting the practice of international business
- Gain knowledge and understanding of key principles concerning international commercial contracts, international trade finance and commercial agency
- Critically assess the effectiveness of the legal principles governing the relationships in business-to-business transactions and the extent to which those principles develop international business.

Syllabus

- Nature, structure and characteristics of International Business Law
- Legal instruments in international business law
- Negotiation, conclusion and terms of international commercial contracts (INCOTERMS 2020)

- Performance and breach of international commercial contracts
- Remedies in international commercial contracts
- International Bank Payment Undertakings
- Principles of documentary credits law(UCP)(part i)
- Principles of documentary credits law (UCP)(part ii)
- Demand Guarantees
- Introduction to the law of commercial agency; commercial agency contracts
- Authority of an agent, relations between principal and agent; relations between agent and third party
- Termination of agency and relevant remedies

Learning and teaching methods

Students will be provided with indicative guidance on, and encouraged to look at, relevant websites which are appropriate to the module, and to identify and share appropriate web-based resources as learning support references with their fellow students and as indicators of their individual learning contexts with their tutors.

The live lectures will include referenced use of selected case studies which will be drawn from the reading materials/web based module learning resources and the practice-based and professional/educational contexts and experience of the tutors.

At pre-arranged and regularly agreed points, on specified days and times in advance of each lecture (typically two to three days prior to the lecture) there will be a 'drop in ' telephone/or on line preparatory learning liaison session conducted between the student(s) and tutor, typically lasting for 20to 30 minutes. These sessions are designed to provide students with an introductory preview of the week's work and give them an opportunity to ask specific and general questions related to that week's learning opportunities and to enable them to contextualise their learning experience.

Self-managed learning will supplement lectures and students are given weekly direction on required and indicative reading.

Description of unit of assessment	Length/Duration	Submission date	Weighting
Discussion activity	2 weeks	n/a	20%
Mid module assignment: oral presentation	10-15 minutes	Mid term	30%
End of module project	4,500 words	End term	50%