

Module code	ULAW/5/IPIL/19/E	NQF level	5
Credit value	15	Study duration	9 weeks

Introduction to Public International Law

Module description

This is a 15 credit level 5 module which forms part of the elective of the LLB. The module covers the general principles of public international law and its relationship with national law.

This module aims to:

- Introduce students to the general principles of public international law
- Identify the relationship between international law and national law
- Assess roles, powers and jurisdiction of public international law within the context of international disputes and the safeguard of human rights

Learning outcomes

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

- recognise the problems encountered in defining public international law
- analyse the relationships between states, international governmental organisations and individuals and the principles that govern these relationships
- critically assess effects and outcome of international co-operation in the resolution of international and national disputes
- assess the role and powers of public international law in the safeguard of human rights
- identify the legal issues arising from a particular situation and apply specific legal rules and advise on one or more possible solutions

Syllabus

- Nature of international law and relationship with national law
- Sources on international law
- The law of treaties
- Sovereignty
- Immunity
- Law of the sea
- Dispute resolution
- Use of force
- Human Rights

Learning and teaching methods

Teaching will be delivered through the provision of specified reading materials that will be provided on the University of Essex Online learning platform, and will be supported by specified discussion forums, pre-recorded lecturecasts and biweekly live seminars (using synchronous communication software and application sharing facility).

Students will be provided with indicative guidance on and encouraged to look at relevant websites which are appropriate to the learning outcomes, and to identify and share appropriate web-based resources (as learning support references) with their fellow students.

The pre-recorded lecturecasts and the online question and answer sessions will include referenced use of selected case studies which will be drawn from the reading materials and the practice-based and professional/educational contexts and experience of the tutors.

There will be also provision for weekly meetings with tutors in their office hours supplementing online students' self-managed learning, discussing their individual queries, and directing them to require and indicative reading.

Description of unit of assessment	Length/Duration	Submission date	Weighting
Assessed discussion activity	2 weeks	N/A	10%
Journal entry	500 words each	Units 2 and 6	20%
End of module project	4,000 words	End of module	70%