Module Descriptor

Title	International Human Rights Law		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Approved
Code	LAWW09018	**SCQF Level**	Level 9
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Business and Creative Industries**		
Module Co-ordinator	D McFadzean		

Summary of Module

This module enables students to obtain both essential knowledge of, and critical insight into, issues relating to international human rights law. The module examines the international human rights system within its contemporary context. The module aims to provide students with a broad and critical understanding of the international legal framework for the protection of human rights, the role and functions of the key institutions that make up the international human rights community, the response of these institutions to current human rights issues, and the current themes and debates affecting human rights on the world stage. Seminar topics will reflect current issues in international human rights law and will include areas such as the emergence of international human rights, the UN human rights system, the right to life, fair trial, equality and non- discrimination, individual and minority group protection, human rights obligations of corporations, and regional mechanisms of protection.

Module Delivery Method	**On-Campus[1]** ☒	**Hybrid[2]** ☐	**Online[3]** ☐	**Work -Based Learning[4]** ☐
Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☐ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☒ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)	

Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1	☒	Term 2	☐	Term 3	☐

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2	☐	Term 2 – Term 3	☐	Term 3 – Term 1	☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Demonstrate detailed knowledge and understanding of the legal framework for the protection of human rights under international law.
L2	Investigate, analyse and evaluate international human rights law concepts as they have developed within the jurisprudence of public international law.
L3	Make effective use of library and electronic resources to acquire specialist legal information.
L4	Demonstrate relevant academic and professional skills required for successful employment within the law and business sectors.
L5	Demonstrate relevant academic and professional skills required for successful employment within the law and business sectors.

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	**During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:**
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 9** Demonstrate and/or work with: An understanding of the scope and defining features of human rights law, and an integrated knowledge of its main areas and boundaries. A critical understanding of a range of the principles, principal theories, concepts and terminology of human rights law. Knowledge of one or more specialisms that is informed by forefront developments.
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 9** Apply knowledge, skills and understanding: In using a range of the principal professional skills, techniques, practices and/or materials associated with human rights law. In using a few skills, techniques, practices and/or materials that are specialised and/or advanced. In practising routine methods of enquiry and/or research.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 9** Undertake critical analysis, evaluation and/or synthesis of ideas, concepts, information and issues in human rights law. Identify and analyse routine professional problems and issues. Draw on a range of sources in making judgements.
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 9** Use a wide range of routine skills and some advanced and specialised skills in support of established practices in human rights law, for example: Present or convey, formally and informally, information on standard/mainstream topics in human rights law to a range of audiences.

	Use a range of ICT applications to support and enhance work. Interpret, use and evaluate numerical and graphical data to achieve goals/targets.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 9** Exercise autonomy and initiative in some activities at a professional level in practice or in human rights law. Practise in ways that show awareness of own and others' roles and responsibilities. Work, under guidance, with specialist practitioners.

Prerequisites	**Module Code** LAWW07026	**Module Title** Public Law
	Other	
Co-requisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**

Learning and Teaching	
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.	
Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	24
Independent Study	164
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	24
Please select	
Please select	
Please select	
TOTAL	200

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes: Reed & Murdoch, Human Rights Law in Scotland, (4th Edition, Bloomsbury, 2017) P Alston and Ryan Goodman, International Human Rights (OUP, 2013) A Bisset, Blackstone's International Human Rights Documents, 9th ed (OUP, 2014) C Gearty and C Douzinas (eds), The Cambridge Companion to Human Rights Law (CUP, 2012) Finch & McGroarty, Human Rights Law Essentials, (EUP, 2010) Harris & Moeckli, International Human Rights Law, (OUP, 2013)

(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements
In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time. **For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:** Attendance at lectures and workshops

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code.
(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	**Accounting, Finance & Law**
Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☒ **Yes** ☐ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	Accounting, Finance & Law
Moderator	M Campbell
External Examiner	TM Masebwe
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**
Changes / Version Number	1

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Critical Essay 100%
Assessment 2
Assessment 3

(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed.

(ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
Essay	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	100	4

Component 2							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐		
Combined total for all components						100%	hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**