Module Descriptor

Title	Public International Law		
Session	2026/27	**Status**	Approved
Code	LAWW09027	**SCQF Level**	9
Credit Points	20	**ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)**	10
School	**Business and Creative Industries**		
Module Co-ordinator	Dr Joanna Wilson		

Summary of Module

This module will examine legal issues in Public International Law. It will provide students with an introduction to the law in this field.

It will show who can formally act and make law in the international plane: states and IGOs, and the necessary requirements for each.

It will look at what types of law exist: sources of law. How this law applies and assess its effectiveness.

It will look at international humanitarian law and the laws of war, and how law can help resolve disputes in these areas.

It will also look at any contemporary or historical developments in the law, and issues and debates in this field. This module will be delivered by way of 11 2 hour workshops.

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	to understand the development of international law
L2	to understand the sources of international law
L3	to understand who can make international law and apply it to a problem
L4	to understand the institutions of international law
L5	to understand the laws of war and international humanitarian law

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 International 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 International 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 International 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. To practise in a range of professional level contexts that include a degree of unpredictability.
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 9** Undertake critical analysis, evaluation and/or synthesis of ideas, concepts, information and issues in International 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 International Law, for example: Present or convey, formally and informally, information on standard/mainstream topics in International Law to a range of audiences. Use a range of ICT applications to support and enhance work.
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 9** Exercise autonomy and initiative in some activities at a professional level in practice or in the academic study of International Law. Work, under guidance, with specialist practitioners.

Prerequisites	**Module Code**	**Module Title**
	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)
n/a	
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	24
Independent Study	176
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: International Law by Jan Klabbers 2021
(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:** Students are required to attend scheduled teaching sessions and engage with the Virtual Learning Environment, lack of which could result in the student being referred to the Engagement Panel or other appropriate body, and could prevent student progression, and ultimately successful degree completion.

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. Reasonable accomodation will be made as applicable within the module to both teaching and assessments.
(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 and Law
Moderator	Dr Samuel White
External Examiner	Tinache Masvimbo Madebwe
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**
Changes / Version Number	

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Component 1 – This module will be assessed by means of one seen open book oral exam worth 100%
Assessment 2
NA
Assessment 3

NA
(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**
Oral Exam	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	100	0.25

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

Component 3							
Assessment Type	**LO1**	**LO2**	**LO3**	**LO4**	**LO5**	**Weighting of Assessment Element (%)**	**Timetabled Contact Hours**
NA	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	0	0
Combined total for all components						100%	0.25 hours

Change Control

What	**When**	**Who**
Dr Samuel White as Moderator	5/3/25	Joanna Wilson
SCQF descriptors amended	5/3/25	Joanna Wilson