1. **Title of the module**

Law of Armed Conflict, LAWS8610 (LW861)

1. **School or partner institution which will be responsible for management of the module**

Kent Law School

1. **The level of the module (e.g. Level 4, Level 5, Level 6 or Level 7)**

Level 7

1. **The number of credits and the ECTS value which the module represents**

20 credits (10 ECTS Credits)

1. **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern)**

Autumn or Spring

1. **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules**

None

1. **The programmes of study to which the module contributes**

Compulsory to LLM in (specialisation) specifically in Human Rights Law; PG Diploma in (Human Rights Law); PG Certificate in (Human Rights Law). Also optional to the MA in (Specialisation in International Conflict and Security);

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Demonstrate a critical evaluation of the key concepts, principles and doctrines of international humanitarian law (IHL);
   2. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of IHL in the context of evolving doctrinal and theoretical discourse;
   3. Critique the principles and theories of IHL to specific cases of contemporary concern or to controversial issues;
   4. Demonstrate systematic independent research in diverse areas of IHL and to construct reasoned and critical arguments based on the concepts, principles and doctrines of IHL;
   5. Demonstrate a critical evaluation of the operation of IHL in diverse situations of armed conflict (international or non-international) and occupation;
2. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
   1. Demonstrate comprehensive legal reasoning, in order to reach a considered judgment as to the correct legal outcome where the law is unclear or there are differences of interpretation;
   2. Demonstrate sophisticated critical legal reasoning and argument;
   3. Demonstrate a systematic synthetization of arguments derived from diverse sources and present a coherent explanatory framework.
3. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This course is designed to enable LL.M. and MA students to obtain comprehensive knowledge of diverse issues involved in international humanitarian law (IHL). It starts with an introduction to the basic concepts and principles of humanitarian law and their historical development, while seeking to enhance students’ insight into main theoretical debates on the significance of international humanitarian law in international relations. The course then moves to focus on specific issues, such as combatant or prisoners of war (PoW) status, civilian status, protection of the vulnerable persons (such as women and children), and issues of belligerent occupation, as well as issue of more contemporary interests such as the protection of cultural property, environment, applicability of IHL to UN Peacekeeping forces and the relationship between IHL and international human rights law. Students are encouraged to develop a critical standpoint in light of historical backgrounds and of theories of international law and international relations.

1. **Reading list (Indicative list, current at time of publication. Reading lists will be published annually)**

Textbooks;

D. Fleck et al. (eds.), Handbook of International Humanitarian Law, 3rd ed., (Oxford: Oxford Univ. Press, 2013) (paperback);

Other recommended textbooks:

D. Thürer, International Humanitarian Law: Theory, Practice, Context, Hague Academy of International Law, 2011, (Maubeuge, France, 2011).

Ēric David, Principes de Droit des Conflits Armés, 5eme ed., (Brussels : Bruylant, 2012).

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total contact hours: 19

Private study hours: 181

Total study hours: 200

1. **Assessment methods.**

13.1 Main assessment methods

The module will be assessed by 100% Coursework as follows:

Essay, maximum 5000 words (100%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

The module will be reassessed by a reassessment instrument of an essay (100% Coursework). The reassessment will test all of the learning outcomes as indicated against the essay in section 14 below.

1. ***Map of module learning outcomes (sections 8 & 9) to learning and teaching methods (section 12) and methods of assessment (section 13)***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 |
| **Learning / teaching method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lectures | x | x | x |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seminars |  |  | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Private Study | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| **Assessment method** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Essay (100%) | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |

1. **Inclusive module design**

The School recognises and has embedded the expectations of current equality legislation, by ensuring that the module is as accessible as possible by design. Additional alternative arrangements for students with Inclusive Learning Plans (ILPs)/declared disabilities will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with the relevant policies and support services.

The inclusive practices in the guidance (see Annex B Appendix A) have been considered in order to support all students in the following areas:

**a) Accessible resources and curriculum**

1. Preference will be given to electronic resources that meet minimum accessibility standards and support the use of assistive technologies.
2. Module outlines will be made accessible at least four weeks before the module starts.
3. Prioritised reading lists will be made available sufficiently in advance to accommodate the provision of alternative formats and support those with a slow reading speed.
4. Lecture/seminar slides/outlines will be made available in electronic format in advance to allow all students to prepare (particularly students with notetaking difficulties).
5. In Brussels, lecture recording will be at the discretion of the module convenor.

**b) Learning, teaching and assessment methods**

The inclusive practices in the guidance (Annex B Appendix A, section b (1) and (2)) have all been considered in order to support all students in their assessments on this module.

1. **Campus(es) or centre(s) where module will be delivered:**

Brussels

1. **Internationalisation**

This course is intended to provide a critical appraisal of the principles international humanitarian law (IHL) and how various international tribunals have applied IHL in practice, and therefore it has an international focus.

**FACULTIES SUPPORT OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Revision record – all revisions must be recorded in the grid and full details of the change retained in the appropriate committee records.**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date approved | Major/minor revision | Start date of the delivery of revised version | Section revised | Impacts PLOs (Q6 & 7 cover sheet) |
| 06/01/2020 | Minor | September 2020 | 15 | No |
|  |  |  |  |  |