1. **Title of the module**

Labour Rights in a Global Economy, LAWS9220 (LW922)

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**

LLM in (Specialisation); LLM in Law; PG Diploma in (Specialisation); PG Certificate in Law. Available to postgraduate students from other schools at the convenor’s discretion.

1. **The intended subject specific learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
2. Demonstrate a detailed awareness of the relationship between labour market regulation and labour rights.
3. Locate and interpret the key international and transnational labour rights instruments and identify the courses of international labour law.
4. Demonstrate a detailed appreciation the significance of globalization in shaping contemporary national labour law regimes.
5. Demonstrate a critical understanding about the debate over international labour standards in the North and South.
6. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the relationship between contemporary economic events and the evolution of labour law at the international, transnational, and national scales.
7. Undertake critical analysis and evaluation of the debates about the future of labour law in a global context and ability to related different positions in the debate to theoretical frames.
8. **The intended generic learning outcomes.  
   On successfully completing the module students will be able to:**
9. Apply their knowledge and understanding in the form of reasoned argument.
10. Critically Identify and critically evaluate complex problems according to their historical, political and legal context.
11. Demonstrate sophisticated independent research skills in acquiring information from a variety of sources informing a sustained and detailed argument.
12. Summarise detailed historical and conceptual material, recognising different positions that arise in the literature surveyed, and critically analyse the different positions.
13. Appreciate that legal forms arise and operate within complex historical and political conditions.
14. Demonstrate a critical understanding of the economic, political and/or social implications of legal forms and institutions.
15. critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship.
16. **A synopsis of the curriculum**

This module will explore the extent to which the “new global economy” (global integration of production and increased migration, digital and informational technologies, transformations in work and production processes, the shift to services, and the informalisation of work) has undermined the pillars upon which labour law was constructed after World War II in developed capitalist economies. These pillars were standard employment contracts, trade unions, vertically integrated firms, social democratic parties, and strong (protectionist) nation states. The module will explore the recent strategy of conceptualizing labour rights as a species of human rights in order to promote worker protection. The focus will be on international and transnational norms and institutions, and their interaction with national/domestic labour regimes. The module will consider changing forms (from labour standard to labour rights and hard to soft law) and scales (national to transnational and international) of regulation, the changing “subjects” of labour law (women, migrant workers, “solo” self-employed), and the changing goals of labour law (flexibility and competiveness versus security and protection). The course will place labour rights in their social, economic and political context.

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

* P. Alston, *Labour Rights as Human Rights* (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2005)
* B. Anderson, *Us and Them* (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2012)
* B. Bercusson and C. Estlund (Eds.), *Regulating Labour in the Wake of Globalisation* (Hart Publishing, Oxford and Protland, 2008).
* J. Conaghan, R. M. Fischl and K. Klare (Eds.), *Labour Law in an Era of Globalisation* (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2002).
* P. Craig and M. Lynk (Eds.), *Globalization and the Future of Labour Law* (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2006)
* G. Davidov and B. Langille (Eds.), *Boundaries and Frontiers of Labour Law* (Hart Publishing, Oxford and Portland, 2006).
* C. Fenwick and T. Novitz (Eds.), *Human Rights at Work: Perspectives on Law and Regulation* (Hart Publishing, Oxford and Portland, 2010),
* J. Fudge, *“The New Discourse of Labour Rights: From Social to Fundamental Rights?”* (2007) 29(1) Comparative Labour Law and Policy Journal 29–66.
* A. Supiot, *Beyond Employment: Changes in Work and the Future of Labour Law in Europe* (Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2001).

1. **Learning and teaching methods**

Total study hours: 200

Contact hours: 20

Private study hours: 180

1. **Assessment methods.**

13.1 Main assessment methods

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

Seminar summary, 300 words (20%)

Essay, 4000-5000 words (80%)

13.2 Reassessment methods

100% coursework

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

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Module learning outcome** | | 8.1 | 8.2 | 8.3 | 8.4 | 8.5 | 8.6 | 9.1 | 9.2 | 9.3 | 9.4 | 9.5 | 9.6 | 9.7 |
| **Learning / teaching method** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lecture/Seminars | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |  | X | X | X | X |
| Private Study | | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| **Assessment method** | Specify word length, duration, individual or group work (as appropriate) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Seminar Summary (20%) | 300 words | X | X |  |  |  |  | X | X |  | X | X | X |  |
| Essay (80%) | 4000-5000 words | X | X | X | X | X | 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 accordance with the KLS school-level statement on Lecture Capture, the lecture/seminars will not be recorded as they are heavily discussion-based and may contain sensitive material.

**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:**

Canterbury

1. **Internationalisation**

This module, by its nature, has an international outlook. The module will explore the recent strategy of conceptualising labour rights as a species of human rights in order to promote worker protection. The focus will be on international and transnational norms and institutions, and their interaction with national/domestic labour regimes.

**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) |
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