



Module Specification

Crimes and Criminality in World Politics

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Crimes and Criminality in World Politics

Module code: UZQY6C-15-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 15

ECTS credit rating: 7.5

Faculty: Faculty of Health & Applied Sciences

Department: HAS Dept of Social Sciences

Partner institutions: None

Field: Politics

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: This module examines the advent of crime and criminality in world politics, and the ways in which the international community seeks to meet the distinctive challenges posed by international crimes through international prosecution and punishment.

Features: Not applicable

Educational aims: This module critically explores the advent of crimes and criminalization in world politics, as well the ways in which the international community seeks to meet the distinctive challenges posed by international criminality through international prosecution and punishment. As an interdisciplinary module located at the interface of international relations, international history and international law, the module specifically examines the historical development, contemporary evolution, and the politics of one particular branch of public international law, namely, International Criminal Law. The module is structured in two parts. In the first part, students will be introduced to the conceptual foundations of International Criminal Law. In the second part, the module turns to a more empirical focus. Here, the four existing international crimes under contemporary international law – genocide, aggression, crimes against humanity and war crimes – are explored from the perspective of legal and diplomatic history.

Outline syllabus: The module examines the rise of international criminality in the context of international criminal law and international relations by looking at:

The historical development of international criminal law

The politics behind the establishment of the International Criminal Court

How the process of international criminalization occurs in world politics

Issues that may be examined include:

Genocide

Crimes against humanity

War crimes

Aggression

Piracy

International terrorism

International criminal tribunals in Nuremberg, Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: The module will employ a combination of lectures, seminars, and workshops. Our pedagogy is interactive, discussion-based, and student-facing. Students are an active part of the learning process, and will be asked to contribute ideas, questions, and critical standpoints. The learning environment is designed to promote peer-to-peer support and exchange.

While teaching and learning will be predominantly classroom based, appropriate use will be made of online resources and learning environments.

Formative support will be given in class to support students in their assessment.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Critically assess key debates in international law and international relations on the prosecution and punishment of international crimes

MO2 Critically assess the historical development of international criminal law

MO3 Identify and evaluate the core institutions and organizations involved in the prosecution and punishment of international crime

MO4 Understand how the process of international criminalization unfolds in world politics

MO5 Identify the political challenges involved in the prosecution of international crimes

MO6 Communicate ideas and arguments clearly

Hours to be allocated: 150

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 117 hours

Face-to-face learning = 33 hours

Total = 150

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzqy6c-15-3.html) via the following link <https://uwe.rl.talis.com/modules/uzqy6c-15-3.html>

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Case review

The student will submit one case review of 3,000 words. This piece of assessment requires a student to explore one international legal case involving the prosecution of an international crime, to summarize the legal issues and legal judgment involved in that particular case and to demonstrate how the core principles of international criminal law operate in practice. This will encourage students to appreciate the legal and political dimensions of how international crimes are prosecuted by international courts.

Formative support will be given in class to support students in their assessment.

Assessment tasks:

Case Study (First Sit)

Description: Case review (3,000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Case Study (Resit)

Description: Case Review (3,000 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4, MO5, MO6

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Politics and International Relations [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Politics And International Relations [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Politics And International Relations {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA
(Hons) 2020-21

Politics And International Relations {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA
(Hons) 2019-20

Politics And International Relations [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20

Politics And International Relations [Sep][PT][Frenchay][6yrs] BA (Hons) 2018-19