



## **Module Specification**

# **International Environmental and Climate Change Law**

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## Part 1: Information

**Module title:** International Environmental and Climate Change Law

**Module code:** UJGU9C-15-M

**Level:** Level 7

**For implementation from:** 2024-25

**UWE credit rating:** 15

**ECTS credit rating:** 7.5

**College:** College of Business and Law

**School:** CBL Bristol Law School

**Partner institutions:** None

**Field:** Law Postgraduate (Programmes)

**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:** The module focuses on international legal and institutional arrangements concerning the conservation of the environment and climate change. This module acknowledges that climate change is one of the most significant challenges confronting the world's legal, political, and economic systems. It examines both theoretical and practical dimensions of these arrangements along with some of the salient aspects of the expanding areas of international environmental law and climate security concerns. The notion of sustainable development occupies an

important place in this module and provides an acknowledgement that environmental and climate change laws need to be considered at the same time as social and economic aspects of development. Students will learn about climate change laws and policies at the international, national, and state levels, climate security, and climate change litigation. The module also examines the global north-south tension along with the link between trade, human rights and the environment.

**Features:** Not applicable

**Educational aims:** The module aims to provide an analysis of the principles of international environmental and climate change law, the global north-south divide and the challenges to enforce international environmental and climate change law. The module will give a comprehensive grounding on negotiation, implementation and current status of key international environmental and climate change treaties. The module aims to equip the students with practical skills and knowledge to analyse, evaluate and reflect upon complex materials relating to environmental and climate laws with multi-disciplinary groups and within multi-cultural contexts.

**Outline syllabus:** The following is a list of topics which will be explored in the workshops.

- Institutions and Principles
- The Environment, Climate Change and Human Rights
- Sustainable Development
- Climate Change and Litigation
- Biodiversity Conservation
- Trade and the Environment
- Compliance and Enforcement

### **Part 3: Teaching and learning methods**

**Teaching and learning methods:** The module is delivered through a weekly interactive two-hour workshop. The workshop-based approach to teaching and learning enables the student to develop the independent research, analytical and reflective skills required for successful completion of this module. Students will need to complete the necessary preparatory reading in advance of each workshop.

Independent learning includes hours engaged with essential reading, workshop preparation, assignment and presentation preparation and completion.

During the workshop sessions, students will be expected to raise, critically assess and defend different points of view on complex legal issues in class and make presentations to the class on their own and in groups. Students will have the opportunity to investigate innovative solutions to complex legal problems and develop group presentation, research and negotiation skills.

This module will enable students to apply problem-solving techniques to overcome global sustainability challenges. The module will be supported by on-line materials which will allow students to test their understanding and pursue their interests further both through digitised materials and on-line discussion.

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

**MO1** Critical understanding of the international legal principles and concepts relating to environmental and climate protection.

**MO2** Ability to critically assess international environmental and climate change law in relation to its wider political, ecological and economic security context.

**MO3** Ability to analyse existing instruments and mechanisms for environmental protection and discuss their adequacy and/or shortcomings in the context of sustainable development.

**MO4** Ability to critically evaluate different techniques for compliance and enforcement of environmental standards.

**MO5** Ability to critically examine existing international environmental and climate conflicts and discuss the legal issues at stake at the national, regional and global levels.

**Hours to be allocated:** 150

**Contact hours:**

Independent study/self-guided study = 128 hours

Face-to-face learning = 22 hours

Total = 150

**Reading list:** The reading list for this module can be accessed at [readinglists.uwe.ac.uk](https://readinglists.uwe.ac.uk) via the following link

<https://rl.talis.com/3/uwe/lists/8EBBC2BB-3D4B-A1D9-BA28-77CB65385630.html?lang=en>

## Part 4: Assessment

**Assessment strategy:** The assessment strategy is to improve students' learning and ensure that assessment is linked to the learning outcomes. Learning outcomes will be assessed by written coursework. Assessment questions will be set by tutors. The assessment requires students to undertake independent research building on material covered in the workshop sessions. Formative assessment opportunities are provided in workshops throughout the module. The assessment process is aligned with the LLM programme and designed to enable students to demonstrate the skills and knowledge they have acquired at the module level.

### Assessment tasks:

#### Written Assignment (First Sit)

Description: Written coursework essay (maximum 2500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

#### Written Assignment (Resit)

Description: Written coursework essay (maximum 2500 words)

Weighting: 100 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

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

## **Part 5: Contributes towards**

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

International Law and Security LLM 2024-25