



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s)
Coordinator: Assoc. Prof. dr. Nataliia Hendel Other(s):	Vilnius University, Faculty of Law, Center of Ukrainian Law Saulėtekio av. 9, Building 1, LT-10222, Vilnius, e-mail: n.v.hendel@gmail.com

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
Second	Optional

Mode of delivery	Course unit delivery period	Language(s) of instruction
Face-to-face	1 (autumn)/ 2 (spring) semester	English

Requirements for students	
Pre-requisites: none	Co-requisites (if any): none

Number of credits allocated	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	133	32	101

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed		
The study of the course "International Humanitarian Law" aims to ensure that students are able to understand the system of international humanitarian law, to analyse and evaluate international law and international treaties in the field of protection of war victims, to use the norms of international humanitarian law in solving professional tasks, to assess the problems and features of the protection of war victims.		
Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will be able to define the place of international humanitarian law in the system of international law, to determine the essence and scope of international humanitarian law, to distinguish the categories of subjects of international humanitarian law, to consider the history of international humanitarian law.	A problematic method of teaching during lectures and seminars (the analysis of problematic practical issues, discussions), individual studies (critical literature reading)	Examination in written
Students will be able to determine the problems with the functioning of the ICRC and other humanitarian organizations during armed conflict.	A problematic method of teaching during lectures and seminars (case analysis, working in group, discussions), individual studies (critical literature reading)	Examination in written
Students will be able to select and apply the appropriate research instruments, including the war victims' legal framework eligible and relevant to analysis of the states' decisions and non-state actors operation in the international humanitarian law issues.	A problematic method of teaching during lectures and seminars (the analysis of problematic practical issues, case analysis), individual studies (critical literature reading).	Examination in written
Students will be able to evaluate correlation of the modern system of civilizational values with legal values, principles and professional ethical standards.	A problematic method of teaching during lectures and seminars (the analysis of problematic practical issues, case analysis), individual studies (critical literature reading).	Examination in written
Students will be able to analyse the practice of international judicial bodies, to apply the rules of international humanitarian law and related case-law.	A problematic method of teaching during lectures and seminars (the analysis of problematic practical issues, case analysis), individual studies (critical literature reading).	Examination in written
Students will be able to make professional legal decisions in situations that require a systematic, logical and functional interpretation of the law, as well as	A problematic method of teaching during lectures and seminars (the analysis of problematic practical issues, case	Examination in written

understanding the specifics of law application in the field of international humanitarian law.	analysis), individual studies (critical literature reading).	
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Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours							Self-study: hours and assignments	
	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Practical sessions	Laboratory activities	Internship/work placement	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. Concepts, sources and principles of international humanitarian law	4		4				8	21	Reading academic literature and main legal sources. Analysis of relevant cases in the court practice.
2. The main categories and scope of application of international humanitarian law	2		2				4	16	Reading academic literature and main legal sources. Analysis of relevant cases in the court practice.
3. The special role of the ICRC in the formation and implementation of international humanitarian law	2		2				4	16	Reading academic literature and main legal sources. Analysis of relevant cases in the court practice.
4. International legal protection of war victims	2		2				4	16	Reading academic literature and main legal sources. Analysis of relevant cases in the court practice.
5. International legal regulation of armed conflicts	4		4				8	16	Reading academic literature and main legal sources. Analysis of relevant cases in the court practice.
6. Implementation of international humanitarian law and responsibility for its violation	2		2				4	16	Reading academic literature and main legal sources. Analysis of relevant cases in the court practice.
Total	16		16				32	101	

Assessment strategy	Weight, percentage	Assessment period	Assessment criteria
Examination in written	100	During the examination session	<p>Two practical situations related to be solved by the students in written, where students are expected to demonstrate the advanced theoretical knowledge of the issues studied during the course, conceptual understanding of the international humanitarian law.</p> <p>Final exam is evaluated by the 10 points assessment criteria for the final evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 points (excellent), excellent knowledge and abilities; • 9 points (very good), strong, good knowledge and abilities; • 8 points (good), better than average knowledge and abilities; • 7 points (average), average knowledge and abilities, with minor mistakes; • 6 points (satisfactory), knowledge and abilities are lower than medium, includes some mistakes; • 5 points (weak), knowledge and abilities satisfies minimal requirements; • 4-1 points – unsatisfactory.

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
Melzer N.	2019	International Humanitarian Law: A Comprehensive Introduction		ICRC, https://www.icrc.org/en/publication/4231-international-humanitarian-law-comprehensive-introduction
Sassòli M., Nagler P.	2019	International Humanitarian Law: Rules, Controversies, and Solutions to Problems Arising in Warfare		Edward Elgar Publishing
Pert A.,	2020	International Humanitarian Law		Cambridge University Press

Crawford E.,				
Recommended reading				
Saul B., Akande D.	2020	The Oxford Guide to International Humanitarian Law		Oxford University Press
Quintin A.	2020	The Nature of International Humanitarian Law: A Permissive or Restrictive Regime?		Edward Elgar Publishing
Morrison A., Tsagourias N.	2018	International Humanitarian Law: Cases, Materials and Commentary		Cambridge University Press