MODULE PROFORMA		
Full module title: Introduction to Rights and the Law		
Module code: 4LLAW025X	Credit level: 4	Length: Three weeks
UK credit value: 20	ECTS value: 10	
College and School: College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Westminster Law School		
Module Leader(s):		
Extension: 0203 506 9645	Email:	
Host course and course leader: London International Summer School		
Status: Summer School only		
Subject Board:		
Pre-requisites: None	Co-requisites: None	
Study abroad: This module is only available on the above programme.		
Special features: None		
Access restrictions: None		
Are the module learning outcomes delivered, assessed or supported through an arrangement with an organisation(s) other than the University of Westminster. No		
Summary of module content: This module provides an introduction to rights while at the same time trying to motivate students to later deepen their interest in human rights law. It starts with broad discussion on rights and continues with an exploration of the central institutions of the human rights regime while pointing to some of the main controversies in the human rights system. The module will address the tension between universalism and relativism, the difficulties with regard to the right holders (individuals, groups, collectivities, organisations) and point to current and future controversies and challenges in the areas of rights in general and human rights in particular.		

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module students will have demonstrated:

- The ability to work under direction and take responsibility for their own work in an adaptable, and reflective manner.
- A broad understanding of the knowledge base and on-going debates within the area and a knowledge and understanding of the law in its wider context
- The ability to apply the legal knowledge to consider legal issues
- An initial understanding of ethical considerations and personal responsibility in the context of academic codes of conduct

- A research strategy that encompasses the identification and selection of a range of authoritative and reliable materials.
- Effective interpersonal and communication skills, specifically with regard to written and digital competencies.

Indicative Syllabus Content

- The Concept of Rights: What is a right? The relationship between rights and duties, rights and interests, and rights and freedoms.
- Universalism versus relativism: Introduction to human rights. Are human rights universal? How do different cultures look at concepts of human rights?
- The various right holders of human rights: Are only individuals holders of human rights? What about group rights (including Women's rights, lesbian and gay rights, disability rights, and ethnic minorities' rights) and collective rights (peoples and indigenous peoples).
- The relevance of the various generations of rights: Civil and political versus socio-economic; the third generation and fourth generation rights, instruments and mechanisms).
- Human Rights in the 21st Century: Globalisation, Development, Poverty.
- Business organisations and human rights: Business organisations as bearers of human rights responsibilities and as holders of human rights.
- Human Rights and the concepts of equality and discrimination

Teaching and Learning Methods

The seminars center on group activities, discussion of reading materials and case studies. The seminars consist of a variable combination of lecture formats that examine, explain and illustrate the topics of the day, and of class debate and activities that provide an opportunity to discuss topics and explore some of the most relevant issues.

Activity type	Category	Student learning and teaching hours*
Lecture	Scheduled	
Seminar	Scheduled	36
Tutorial	Scheduled	
Project supervisor	Scheduled	
Demonstration	Scheduled	
Practical Classes and workshops	Scheduled	
Supervised time in studio/workshop	Scheduled	
Fieldwork	Scheduled	
External visits	Scheduled	
Work based learning	Scheduled	
Total Scheduled		36
Placement	Placement	
Independent study	Independent	164
Total student learning and teaching hours		200

*the hours per activity type are indicative and subject to change

Assessment rationale

The assessment is constituted by one piece of coursework.

The coursework is designed to allow an individual analysis of a topic related to rights and to also support the intellectual development of research, analytical and writing skills.

The topic and title of the coursework is chosen by the student in agreement with the module leaders in order to stimulate the student to reflect on a relevant topic and translate that topic into a workable research title.

The written coursework will assess the capacity to translate a general topic of personal interest into a concrete research theme; the broad understanding of a specific area of enquiry; the capacity to analyse issues associated with the area of enquiry and draw reasoned conclusions; assess the analytical, written and communication skills in the form of an essay and presentation carried out within a specific time limit.

Assignment Assessment Criteria:
- Content: Analysis of the question, response to the question, evidence of logical argument and use of appropriate examples.
- Presentation: Structure, spelling/punctuation, grammar and overall care.
- Depth and breadth of research and ability to reference work correctly
- Ability to elucidate arguments/points in a succinct manner and within the word limit.

Assessment methods and weightings

Assessment name	Weighting %	Qualifying mark %	Qualifying set	Assessment type (e.g. essay, presentation, open exam or closed exam)
Written Coursework 3000 words	100			

Sources

Essential Reading List (subject to amendment)

The Talis reading list is linked to the blackboard site.

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Date of initial validation:

Dates of approved modifications:
Date of re-validation/review: