

Module Details	
Module Title	Sustainable Development Law in Contemporary Business and Society
Module Code	LAW7030-B
Academic Year	2024/5
Credits	20
School	School of Law
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 7

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Seminars	32
Directed Study	168

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
BDA	University of Bradford / Semester 1

Module Aims
<p>This module aims to provide an appreciation of the international law of sustainable development by introducing key international legal frameworks and institutions related to sustainable development and by looking into certain important areas where international sustainable development law is being implemented. The module also discusses practical issues related to sustainable development, such as those arising from the efforts to eradicate poverty and inequality and the support of the poor and disadvantaged. The areas of primary focus are business, environment, human rights and international trade/commerce. This module is an important element of the LLM Technology and Artificial Intelligence Law programme because of the significant role of technology and artificial intelligence in addressing development challenges; it is part of the LLM International Corporate Law and Governance programme because of the prominence of sustainability requirements in corporate governance; part of the LLM International Banking and Financial Technology Law programme because of the critical importance of sustainability in banking and financial systems; part of the LLM International Commercial Law, due to the vital role of sustainable development principles for preventing and resolving disputes from commerce and trade; part of the LLM International Human Rights Law and Development due to the significant development impacts on human rights; part of LLM Natural Resources, Environmental Law, and Policy due to the significance of the sustainable development principle for addressing legal issues related for example to climate change, the environment and natural resources; and part of the LLM International Legal Studies as one of the significant modern areas of legal study with policy and practical relevance. This module is also suitable for any other postgraduate programme where knowledge of sustainable development law principles can contribute towards achieving the programme aims.</p>

Outline Syllabus

- * Introduction to core concepts of sustainable development;
- * Crosscutting Issues in sustainable development law;
- * The status of sustainable development in international law and policy;
- * Contemporary issues related to the implementation of sustainable development in selected areas (business, energy, climate change, human rights, poverty eradication, intergenerational equity, trade, investment and commerce, IT, Artificial intelligence etc);
- * Building legal frameworks for a sustainable world;
- * The future of sustainable development law.

Learning Outcomes

Outcome Number	Description
01	Critically analyse at a practical and theoretical level, the contemporary political, social and economic context in which sustainable development law operates.
02	Appreciate the conceptual relationship between the elements of sustainable development and their underlying theoretical philosophy and frameworks.
03	Carry out independent research in the relevant field using a range of primary and secondary sources.
04	Use evidence, arguments, assumptions and abstract theories of international sustainable development law to formulate judgements or identify solutions to theoretical or practical problems.

Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategy

Students will engage with a series of workshops addressing the key legal concepts of sustainable developments and will include a set of structured learning activities (eg, discussion of pre-read academic materials) that 'scaffold' the learning. The workshops will also include tasks and discussions on practical aspects of the law.

Additional opportunities for self-study will be provided through the virtual learning environment. Successfully completing tasks set will require independent legal research drawing on variety of both primary and secondary materials and written and oral presentations by you. Oral feedback will be given in the class and opportunities for written feedback will be provided. Tutors will be available to meet you individually (face-to-face or online) if requested to discuss further feedback opportunities and review your progress.

Formative assessment will be made available to help you better prepare for the summative assessment. All teaching will be supported by directed study and materials supplied through a virtual learning environment.

The assessment will test your knowledge and understanding of theoretical perspectives of the law and your ability to use theory to provide solutions to real world problems. It will include the submission of a written coursework of 2,500 words and a 15- minutes group presentation. The topics of both assessments will be selected by the student and will be from one or more of the module topics. The purpose of the assessment will be to offer, based on your own independent research, a critical account and evaluation of a contemporary problem, concept or court case or theory of the law of sustainable development. The coursework should contain a critical account of up to 300 words where you will have to explain and evaluate the learning process which you followed in order to complete the coursework and meet the learning outcomes which will be included in the overall 2500 word submission. There will be elements of formative assessment which will support your development towards the final summative assessment.

Mode of Assessment			
Type	Method	Description	Weighting
Summative	Coursework - Written	Critical account and evaluation of a contemporary problem (2500 words)	80%
Summative	Presentation	Group Presentation on a module topic (15 mins)	20%
Formative	Coursework - Written	Formatively assessed small case study including a reflective account (2000 words total)	N/A

Reading List
To access the reading list for this module, please visit https://bradford.rl.talis.com/index.html

Please note:

This module descriptor has been published in advance of the academic year to which it applies. Every effort has been made to ensure that the information is accurate at the time of publication, but minor changes may occur given the interval between publishing and commencement of teaching. Upon commencement of the module, students will receive a handbook with further detail about the module and any changes will be discussed and/or communicated at this point.

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