



NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY AND JUDICIAL ACADEMY, ASSAM

PROGRAMME: B.A.,LL.B.(HONS.)FYIC

DETAILS OF COURSE OFFERED

ODD SEMESTER (VII) – ACADEMIC YEAR:

SL. NO	COURSE CODE	COURSE TITLE	L	T/P	CR	CH
1	BL705.9 INTERNATIONAL LAW, SPECIALIZATION GROUP PAPER- II	INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW	4 PER WEEK	1 PER WEEK	4	

- A. CODE AND TITLE OF THE COURSE: BL705.9 (INTERNATIONAL LAW SPECIALIZATION GROUP PAPER- I), INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL LAW
- B. COURSE CREDIT : 4 (TOTAL MARKS 200)
- C. MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION: ENGLISH
- D. COURSE COMPILED BY: DR. GITANJALI GHOSH
- E. COURSE INSTRUCTOR: DR. GITANJALI GHOSH

1. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Traditionally, international law was the law that governed the conduct of States in their relations with each other. Gradually, international law has also come to govern individuals, international organizations and even corporations. In today's globalizing world, it has emerged as one of the significant subjects for study. It is not an exaggeration to state that international law affects every person living on the globe.

In the light of the growing importance of international law, it is not only desirable but also imperative for students to have a thorough knowledge of the subject. Hence, the primary objective of this course is to generate and sustain an interest to study international law in the minds of the students.

As the students are already familiar with the basics of international law, this course will take their study one notch higher with the introduction of a very important branch of international law i.e. international criminal law.

The objectives of the course, in particular, are as follows:

- Provide students with an understanding of the development of international criminal law
- Introduce students to the principles of jurisdiction, elements of crimes, modes of liability, justifications and excuses, immunities under international criminal law
- Elucidate on the international crimes of war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity, aggression, torture and terrorism

2. TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The teaching methodology shall aim at the generation of critical thinking among the students. The topic for a particular class shall be informed to the students beforehand and readings shall be assigned to them for the said topic. They are expected to have a basic idea about the topic prior to the class. Subsequent to a brief lecture on the topic, there shall be class discussion on the same as well as on the readings assigned. Pursuant to the class discussion, the teacher shall substantiate the issues raised and answer any questions posed or left unanswered. Topics shall also be assigned to be students for presentation in class to develop their teaching learning abilities. Movie reviews substantiating their importance to the course syllabus is a novel feature of this class.

3. COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the completion of the course, it is humbly expected that the students shall:

- Comprehend the subject matter of the course
- Be able to analyze contemporary international criminal law problems in the light of the concepts learnt
- Be able to articulate their ideas on the subject matter of the course
- Produce at least one research paper of publishable quality
- Desire to take up international law for further studies

4. COURSE EVALUATION METHOD

The Course shall be assessed out of 200 marks. The impetus is on Continuous Assessment. The Evaluation scheme is as follows:

Internal Assessment 70% (140 marks)

Semester End Examination 30% (60 marks)

Sl. No.	Marks Distribution	
1	Project Work	40 marks
2	Seminar/Group Discussion	20 marks
3	Assignment/Assessment	30 marks
4	Mid-Semester Test	40 marks
5	Attendance in class	10 marks
6	Semester End Examination	60 marks

5. DETAILED STRUCTURE OF THE COURSE (SPECIFYING COURSE MODULES AND SUB-MODULES)

MODULE I

1.1 Fundamentals of International Criminal Law

Main features of International Criminal Law
 Sources of International Criminal Law
 Notion of International Crimes
 Principle of Legality- Substantive Justice and Strict Legality

1.2 Historical Evolution of International Criminal Law

Early Attempts
 Nuremberg and Tokyo Tribunals
 Cold War Period
 ICTY and ICTR
 ICC
 Hybrid or Mixed Courts

1.3 International and National Jurisdiction

Direct and Indirect Enforcement
Exclusive jurisdiction (Nuremberg Model)
Precedence of International Criminal Tribunals (UN Ad hoc Tribunals Model)
Precedence of Domestic Courts
Complementarity (ICC model)

MODULE II

2.1 Elements of International Crimes

Objective Element
Subjective Element
Intent
Special Intent (*Dolus Specialis*)
Recklessness
Knowledge
Gross Negligence
Negligence

2.2 Modes of Criminal Liability

Perpetration
Joint Criminal Enterprise
Indirect Perpetration
Co-perpetration
Conspiracy
Attempts
Aiding and Abetting
Ordering
Planning and Preparation
Instigating
Inchoate Crimes
Superior Responsibility
Command Responsibility

2.3 Circumstances excluding Criminal Liability

Self-defence
Necessity and Duress
Mistake of Fact
Mistake of Law
Intoxication
Mental Incapacity
Superior Orders

2.4 Immunities

Classes of immunities
Functional and personal immunities
Lifting of immunities in cases of international crimes

MODULE III

3.1 War Crimes

Notion of the offence
Origin of the offence
Link between the offence and armed conflict- international or non-international
Objective Elements of the offence
Subjective Elements of the offence

3.2 Crimes Against Humanity

Notion of the offence
Origin of the offence
Objective Elements of the offence
Subjective Elements of the offence

3.3 Genocide

Notion of the offence
Origin of the offence
Objective Elements of the offence
Subjective Elements of the offence
Genocide Convention

MODULE IV

4.1 Aggression

Notion of the offence
Origin of the offence
Objective Elements of the offence
Subjective Elements of the offence

4.2 Torture

Notion of the offence
Origin of the offence
Objective Elements of the offence
Subjective Elements of the offence
Torture under international human rights law

4.3 Terrorism

Notion of the offence
Origin of the offence
Efforts to codify
Diverse forms

6. PRESCRIBED READINGS

- Antonio Cassese, *International Criminal Law* (2nd edn, OUP 2008) Chapters 1, 2, 14, 15 and 16.
- Gerhard Werle and Florian Jessberger, *Principles of International Criminal Law* (3rd edn, OUP 2014) Part One (A, B, D, F, G, H)
- Ilias Bantekas and Susan Nash, *International Criminal Law* (3rd edn, Routledge-Cavendish 2007) Chapters 1 and 4.
- Ilias Bantekas, *International Criminal Law* (4th edn, Hart Publishing 2010) Chapter 1.
- Mohamed M. El Zeidy, *The Principle of Complementarity in International Criminal Law: Origin, Development and Practice* (Martinus Nijhoff Publishers 2008).
- Robert Cryer (et al), *An Introduction to International Criminal Law and Procedure* (Cambridge University Press 2007) Chapters 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- Robert Cryer, *Prosecuting International Crimes* (Cambridge University Press 2005) Chapter 1.
- Ronald C. Slye and Beth Van Schaack, *International Criminal Law* (Wolters Kluwer Law & Business 2009) Chapters 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.
- Christopher Stephen, 'International Criminal Law: Wielding the Sword of Universal Criminal Justice', (2012) 61(1) INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW QUARTERLY 55-89.
- Antonio Cassese, *International Criminal Law* (2nd edn, OUP 2008) Chapters 3, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.
- Geert-Jan Alexander Knoops, *Defences in Contemporary International Criminal Law* (2nd edn, Martinus Nijhoff Publishers 2008).
- Gerhard Werle and Florian Jessberger, *Principles of International Criminal Law* (3rd edn, OUP 2014) Part Two (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H)
- Ilias Bantekas and Susan Nash, *International Criminal Law* (3rd edn, Routledge-Cavendish 2007) Chapters 2, 3 and 4.
- Ilias Bantekas, *International Criminal Law* (4th edn, Hart Publishing 2010) Chapters 2, 3, 4 and 5.
- Robert Cryer (et al), *An Introduction to International Criminal Law and Procedure* (Cambridge University Press 2007) Chapters 15 and 16.
- Robert Cryer, *Prosecuting International Crimes* (Cambridge University Press 2005) Chapter 6.
- Ronald C. Slye and Beth Van Schaack, *International Criminal Law* (Wolters Kluwer Law & Business 2009) Chapter 10.
- William A. Schabas and Nadia Bernaz (eds), *Routledge Handbook of International Criminal Law* (Routledge 2011) Chapters 15 and 22.
- Beatrice Krebs, 'Justifications and Excuses in Article 31(3) of the Rome Statute' (2013) 2(3) CAMBRIDGE JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW 382-410.

- Antonio Cassese, *International Criminal Law* (2nd edn, OUP 2008) Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 20 and 21.
- Gerhard Werle and Florian Jessberger, *Principles of International Criminal Law* (3rd edn, OUP 2014) Parts Three, Four, Five, Six
- Ilias Bantekas and Susan Nash, *International Criminal Law* (3rd edn, Routledge-Cavendish 2007) Chapters 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 17 and 18.
- Ilias Bantekas, *International Criminal Law* (4th edn, Hart Publishing 2010) Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 21 and 22.
- John F. Murphy, “Challenges of the new terrorism” in David Armstrong (ed), *Routledge Handbook of International Law* (Routledge 2009) Chapter 19.
- Robert Cryer (et al), *An Introduction to International Criminal Law and Procedure* (Cambridge University Press 2007) Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17 and 18.
- Robert Cryer, *Prosecuting International Crimes* (Cambridge University Press 2005) Chapter 5.
- Ronald C. Slye and Beth Van Schaack, *International Criminal Law* (Wolters Kluwer Law & Business 2009) Chapters 6, 7 and 8.
- Sergey Sayapin, *The Crime of Aggression in International Criminal Law* (Springer 2014).
- William A. Schabas and Nadia Bernaz (eds), *Routledge Handbook of International Criminal Law* (Routledge 2011) Chapters 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 17, 18, 20 and 25.
- William Schabas, “International Crimes” in David Armstrong (ed), *Routledge Handbook of International Law* (Routledge 2009) Chapter 18.
- Christian Much, ‘The International Criminal Court (ICC) and Terrorism as an International Crime’ (2006) 14 MICHIGAN STATE JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 121-138.
- Guglielmo Verdirame, ‘The Genocide Definition in the Jurisprudence of Ad hoc Tribunals’ (2000) 49 INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW QUARTERLY 578-598.
- Mary Ellen O'Connell & Mirakmal Niyazmatov, ‘What is Aggression?’ (2012) 10 JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL JUSTICE 189-207.
- Massimo Renzo, ‘Crimes Against Humanity and the Limits of International Criminal Law’ (2012) 31 LAW AND PHILOSOPHY 443-476.

International Statutes

- Charter of the International Military Tribunal
- Charter of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East
- Statute of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991
- Statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens responsible for genocide and other such violations committed in the territory of neighbouring States, between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994
- Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (adopted 17 July 1998, entered into force 1 July 2002) 2187 UNTS 90.