

Syrian Arab Republic	 الجامعة الافتراضية السورية SYRIAN VIRTUAL UNIVERSITY	الجمهورية العربية السورية
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research		وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي
Syrian Virtual University		الجامعة الافتراضية السورية

Course Definition:

1- Basic Information:

Course Name	In-depth Studies in International Humanitarian Law
Course ID	ISIHIL
Contact Hours (Registered Sessions)	14
Contact Hours (Synchronized Sessions)	14
Mid Term Exam	
Exam	75 MIN
Registered Sessions Work Load	14
Synchronized Session Work Load	14
Credit Hours	7

2- Pre-Requisites:

Course	ID
Law of Armed Conflict	LAC
General Theory of International Humanitarian Law	GTIHL

3- Course General Objectives:

The course aims to provide the student with the legal knowledge and skills necessary to deal with the problems and challenges facing the application of International Humanitarian Law in contemporary international and non-international armed conflicts, through:

- Giving an overview of the most important contemporary challenges and issues facing International Humanitarian Law.
- The obligations of non-state armed groups under International Humanitarian Law and how to strengthen their respect for their obligations.

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- The concept of the privatization of war and the responsibility of states for violations of International Humanitarian Law by private security and military companies.
- Terrorism and International Humanitarian Law.
- Arms trade and transfers.
- Lethal Autonomous Weapons System under the International Humanitarian Law.
- The use of drones from the viewpoint of International Humanitarian Law.
- Cyber warfare and the application of International Humanitarian Law.
- Humanitarian assistance.
- The protection of environment during the armed conflicts.
- Detention during armed conflicts.

4- Intended Learning Outcomes (ILO):

Code	Intended Learning Outcomes
ILO1	Promote and deepen student knowledge in the field of International Humanitarian Law by discussing the most important challenges and problems facing its application.
ILO2	Analysis of the concept of terrorism from the viewpoint of International Humanitarian Law.
ILO3	Improving the student's cognitive abilities to enable him/her to understand the concept of non-governmental armed groups that play an important role in contemporary armed conflicts.
ILO4	The student's ability to understand the concept of the privatization of war and its impact on the application of International Humanitarian Law.
ILO5	The student's ability to understand the concept of cyber warfare and the applicability of the rules of International Humanitarian Law to it.
ILO6	Developing the student's practical skills to enable him to apply the rules of International Humanitarian Law to modern weapons, such as Lethal Autonomous Weapons and drones.
ILO7	The student's awareness of the importance of and how to protect the environment during armed conflict.

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5- Course Syllabus (18 hours of total synchronized sessions)

- **RS:** Recorded Sessions; **SS:** Synchronized Sessions;

ILO	Course Syllabus	RS	SS	Type	Additional Notes
ILO1	Contemporary challenges for International Humanitarian Law	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO2	The concept of non-state armed groups within the framework of International Humanitarian Law	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO3	Terrorism and counter-terrorism	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO4	Foreign fighters	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO5	Private military and security companies	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO6	Technologies of War and International Humanitarian Law: Cyber Warfare	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO7	Lethal Autonomous Weapons	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO8	Drones	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO9	Arms trade and transfers	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO10	Humanitarian assistance	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO11	Protecting the environment during armed conflict	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO12	Detention in non-international armed conflicts	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO13	Protection and recruitment of children	2	2	Assignments Discussions	
ILO14	Protection of cultural property in International Humanitarian Law	2	2	Assignments Discussions	

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6- Assessment Criteria (Related to ILOs)

ISC	Interactive Synchronized Collaboration	Ex	Exams	Rpt	Reports
PF2F	Presentations and Face-to-Face Assessments	PW	Practice Work		

ILO Code	ILO	Intended Results	Assessment Type				
			ISC	PW	Ex	PF2F	Rpt
ILO1	Contemporary challenges for International Humanitarian Law		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO2	The concept of non-state armed groups within the framework of International Humanitarian Law		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO3	Terrorism and counter-terrorism		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO4	Foreign fighters		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO5	Private military and security companies		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO6	Technologies of War and International Humanitarian Law: Cyber Warfare		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO7	Lethal Autonomous Weapons		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO8	Drones		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO9	Arms trade and transfers		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO10	Humanitarian assistance		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO11	Protecting the environment during armed conflict		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO12	Detention in non-international armed conflicts		✓	✓	✓		✓

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ILO13	Protection and recruitment of children		✓	✓	✓		✓
ILO14	Protection of cultural property in International Humanitarian Law		✓	✓	✓		✓

7- Practice Tools:

Tool Name	Description

8- Main References

- Frits Kalshoven and Liesbeth Zegveld, Constraints on the waging of war: an introduction to International Humanitarian Law, ICRC, Geneva, 2004.
- Marco Sassòli and Antoine Bouvier, How does Law protect in war? ICRC, 2011.
- Marco Sassòli, International Humanitarian Law, rules, controversies, and solutions to problems arising in warfare, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2019.
- Nils Melzer, International Humanitarian Law: a comprehensive introduction, ICRC, 2016.
- Omar Mekky, International Humanitarian Law in contemporary armed conflict, ICRC, Geneva, 2020.

9- Additional References

- Isaac Al-Ashash: Lethal Autonomous Weapons in International Law: A Legal Approach to the Problem of Banning Internationally, Journal of Human Rights Generation, No. 30, 2018.
- Rebecca Barber: Facilitating Humanitarian Assistance in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law, Selections from International Review of the Red Cross, Volume 91, No. 874, June 2008.
- Marco Sassòli: State responsibility for violations of International Humanitarian Law, Selections from International Review of the Red Cross, No. 846, 2002.

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- Michael Butte, Karl Bruch, Jordan Diamond and David Jensen: International Law for the Protection of the Environment in Armed Conflict: Gaps and Opportunities, International Review of the Red Cross, Volume 92, No. 879, September 2010.
- Michael Cotier: Elements relating to the contracting and organization of private security and military companies, Selections from the International Review of the Red Cross, Volume 88, No. 863, September 2006.
- Mona Ghbouli: The Legal Aspects of the Work of Private Military Companies in the Light of International Humanitarian Law, Journal of Law and Humanities, Volume 7, No. 19, 2014.
- Yahya Yassin Saud: Cyber warfare in light of the rules of humanitarian law, legal journal, 2018.