

Module Details	
Module Title	Sustainable Development Law in Contemporary Business and Society (Distance Learning)
Module Code	LAW7054-B
Academic Year	2023/4
Credits	20
School	School of Law
FHEQ Level	FHEQ Level 7

Contact Hours	
Type	Hours
Directed Study	176
Online Lecture (Asynchronous)	12
Online Seminar (Synchronous)	12

Availability	
Occurrence	Location / Period
DLA	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.</p> <p>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, technology, 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/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

All sessions are delivered online using digital legal resources and appropriate learning technologies. The Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) for each module is the hub of knowledge through which all module materials are accessed and where a big part of student work takes place. The module will be delivered over 12 weeks 5 of which will include synchronous learning and 7 asynchronous.

Synchronous learning, which involves student interaction with module lecturers and tutors, includes four 2-hour live weekly seminars focusing on delivering content, clarifying issues on the law topics, and discussing answers to student tasks. One additional 2-hour synchronous seminar will focus on the design of and preparation for the summative assessment, module revision, and the collection and review of student feedback which will be used to improve module delivery.

The seven weeks of asynchronous learning include a mix of learning activities such as pre-recorded online presentations or talks on a particular topic, links to relevant videos and online resources and lists of questions and tasks for self-study. You can watch the presentations, videos and work on the answers and tasks at your own time.

The learning materials and activities (synchronous and asynchronous) cover the underlying theory and consider issues of critical evaluation of sustainable development law through a combination practical questions and case studies. Successfully completing tasks set requires independent legal research drawing on variety of both primary and secondary materials and written and oral presentations by you.

Oral feedback is given in the class during the live sessions and opportunities for written feedback are provided. A formative assessment will be made available to help you better prepare for the summative assessment.

An online module manual provides an outline of the module structure, content, learning and teaching strategy and assessment format.

The manual is complemented by more detailed study guides which provide guidance on the topic of the weekly study and contain the learning materials (pre-recorded lectures, slides, tutorial tasks, self-study tasks) the reading lists, and other useful information for each week.

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 2,5000 words 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	A critical account and evaluation of a contemporary problem	80%
Summative	Presentation	Group presentation on a module topic (15 Mins)	20%
Formative	Coursework	A short version of coursework with tasks similar to those of the summative assessment on a module topic.	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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