

Course Name : The Law of Armed Conflicts							
Course Code	Course Type	Regular Semester	Lecture (hours/week)	Seminar (hours/week)	Lab. (hours/week)	Credits	ECTS
LAW 417	C	Fall	3.00	1.00	0.00	3.50	6.00
Lecturer		Arjan Lame, PhD					
Assistant							
Course language		Albanian					
Course level		Master					
Description		The course covers the essential aspects of the Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC), often referred to as international humanitarian law (IHL). This course will be concerned with jus in bello, law in war – battlefield law – much more than jus ad bellum, the law concerning the resort to arms. We will stress LOAC/IHL concepts applicable in land-based armed conflicts between States, and conflicts between States and non-State actors and armed opposition groups.					
Objectives		The objective of these lectures is to • Provide the students with a basic knowledge and understanding of both the substantive and procedural aspects of the law of armed conflict Introduce the students to the basic objectives and principles underlying the rules of armed conflict, including the major treaties, enforcement mechanisms, and the relationship between humanitarian and human rights law Develop students’ skills in applying, analyzing and critiquing the relevant principles					
Core Concepts							
Course Outline							
Week	Topic						
1	Law of armed conflict: background & historyThe 1949 Geneva ConventionsAdditional Protocols I, II, and III						
2	Types of conflict and thresholds of applicability of the law: (i) international conflict; (ii) non-international armed conflict; (iii) self-determination movements; (iv) internationalized armed conflict						
3	Law on the conduct of hostilities: (i) non-combatants; (ii) wounded, sick and shipwrecked; (iii) humanitarian personnel and the protective emblem; (iv) combatants and prisoners of war: status and treatment; (v) spies, mercenaries; (vi) methods of combat; (vii) means of combat; (viii) issues: nuclear weapons, arms control & disarmament, culture, environment						
4	The problem of terrorism and terrorists: status, rights, asymmetrical warfare, necessity, and assassination						
5	International vs. Non-International Armed Conflicts						
6	Battlefield Status in an IAC						
7	Battlefield Status in NIAC						
8	Midterm Exam						
9	The law of occupation						
10	The relationship between human rights law & humanitarian law						
11	Implementation, responsibility and enforcement						
12	War crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide						

13	Child soldiers
14	Women in war
15	Current difficult law of armed conflict issuesCyber warfare Guantanamo and military commissions
16	Final Exam
Prerequisites	The student must attend the course at a minimum rate of 75%.
Literature	• Kolb, R. & Hyde, R. An Introduction to the International Law of Armed Conflicts. Oxford, Hart Publishing, 2008 • The 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 1977 Additional Protocols to the 1949 Geneva Conventions. • Solis , Gary D. The Law of Armed Conflict: International Humanitarian Law in War. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010.
References	• Merrills, John Graham. International Dispute settlement. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2011.
Course Outcome	
1	Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of the history of the movement towards humanisation of armed conflict, and the reasons for the complex legal framework that exists in International Law.
2	Understand the relationship between the Jus ad Bellum and the Jus in Bello, and the different distinctions within these laws of war.
3	Demonstrate an advanced conceptual understanding of the International Law of Armed Conflict, what it is, whom or what it affects, the system within which it operates, and how that relates to the domestic legal system
4	Critically examine, compare and evaluate the different theories and views of leading authorities, and develop their own perspectives about academic controversies.
5	Engage directly with primary legal materials as well as advanced scholarly works, and be able to assess critically leading decisions of international courts and tribunals, and the contribution that these decisions have made

Course Evaluation			
In-term Studies	Quantity	Percentage	
Midterms	1	15	
Quizzes	0	0	
Projects	1	15	
Term Projects	0	0	
Laboratory	0	0	
Class Participation	1	10	
Total in-term evaluation percent			40
Final exam percent			60
Total			100
ECTS Workload (Based on Student Workload)			
Activities	Quantity	Duration (hours)	Total (hours)
Course duration (Including the exam week: 16x Total hours of the course)	16	4	64
Study hours outside the classroom (Preparation, Practice, etc.)	14	4	56
Duties	1	5	5
Midterms	1	0	0
Final Exam	1	20	20
Other	0	0	0
Total Work Load			145
Total Work Load / 25 (hours)			5.80
ECTS			6.00