



COURSE OUTLINE

JST202 International Justice and Human Rights

Course Coordinator: Shannon Brincat (sbrincat@usc.edu.au) **School:** School of Law and Society

2021 | Semester 2

USC Sunshine Coast

ON CAMPUS

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

Online

ONLINE

You can do this course without coming onto campus.

Please go to the USC website for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.

1. What is this course about?

1.1. Description

International Justice and Human Rights examines the nature of human rights and the enshrining of those rights in law, both domestically and internationally. You will be introduced to the sources of human rights in Australia and examine those derived from the Commonwealth Constitution, enunciated in case law and articulated in international declarations and covenants. A number of selected topics provide scope for detailed investigation and raise issues associated with anti-discrimination legislation; those of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers in a contemporary context and Australia's counter terrorism laws.

1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
ON CAMPUS			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – On campus tutorial	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
Lecture – Online lecture	1hr	Week 1	12 times
ONLINE 1			
Tutorial/Workshop 1 – Online tutorial	2hrs	Week 1	12 times
Lecture – Online lecture	1hr	Week 1	12 times

1.3. Course Topics

Introducing International Justice and Human Rights
Human Rights: History, Philosophy and Social Struggles
Australia, International Law, and Human Rights
Treaty System, Jurisdiction, Sovereignty, and State Immunities in International Law
International Law and Justice: Sources of Convention and Practice
The International Human Rights Regime (Part 1): Human Rights Law
The International Human Rights Regime (Part 2): International Humanitarian Law
Laws of War and The Use of Force
International Criminal Law
The International Law of the Sea: a case-study on asylum seekers
The 'Others' of International Justice
UNHRC Simulation

2. What level is this course?

200 Level (Developing)

Building on and expanding the scope of introductory knowledge and skills, developing breadth or depth and applying knowledge and skills in a new context. May require pre-requisites where discipline specific introductory knowledge or skills is necessary. Normally, undertaken in the second or third full-time year of an undergraduate programs.

3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...
1 Contribute and engage in course content discussions with lecturer and peers during the seminars.	Engaged
2 Discuss, explain and describe international justice, human rights, theory and practice including actors, institutions, processes, key events.	Knowledgeable
3 Demonstrate research, critical analysis skills, and argument development in essay papers, in preparation and participation of the seminar.	Creative and critical thinker
4 Apply scholarly writing, research and reference practice in the field of International Justice and Human Rights.	Empowered

5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [USC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

5.1. Pre-requisites

Any 2 courses or enrolled in Program AR505 or AR605

5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

Not applicable

6. How am I going to be assessed?

6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

The course includes an early assessment (not a Substantial Assessment Task) that provides formative feedback on academic progress that focuses on development of the essay. Students will submit an essay plan in week 4 that will be peer reviewed in the seminar and/or by the lecturer.

6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Portfolio	Individual	20%	Weeks 1-12	Throughout teaching period (refer to Format)	To Supervisor
All	2	Essay	Individual	40%	2000 words	Week 8	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3a	Written Piece	Individual	20%	2000 words	Week 11	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3b	Oral	Individual	20%	1 minute speech; active participation throughout simulation	Refer to Format	In Class

All - Assessment Task 1: Portfolio and Participation

GOAL:	You will read the weekly readings, take note and/or answer tutorial questions and submit via email these BEFORE the seminar/tutorial.	
PRODUCT:	Portfolio	
FORMAT:	Students will complete all required readings and summarise these and/or answer any tutorial questions and submit, via email, BEFORE each seminar/tutorial.	
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Written component: Accuracy in answering set questions; use of grammar and script in composition-style writing; translation skills. 1 2
	2	Demonstrated capacity to analyse readings and arguments for the topic. 1 2
	3	Contributed to class and group discussions with relevant and informed comments. 2

All - Assessment Task 2: Essay

GOAL:	To undertake research and write an essay that explores a topic regarding international justice and human rights.
PRODUCT:	Essay
FORMAT:	The 2000 word essay is written as a formal academic essay with appropriate acknowledgement of research sources presented with references. You will answer one question from the topics provided on Blackboard. Particular attention will be focused on the inclusion of empirical data to support points and arguments made, integration of arguments with politics, practices, and theory of international human rights, and, on critical analysis and synthesis of materials in the essay. The essay should apply the Harvard style of referencing with a List of References (LOR) at the end.

CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed	
	1	The essay will be assessed by the degree of achievement in the following areas: formation of relevant knowledge	2 3 4
	2	critical analysis and argument	2 3 4
	3	effective communication	2 3 4
	4	presentation in required format	3 4

All - Assessment Task 3a: United Nations Human Rights Council simulation - written piece

GOAL:	The simulation event has been designed to create an authentic research experience emulating the workings of the UNHRC. It is a requirement of the course to attend to all sessions of this simulation. You will attend the simulation guidelines session (held in a class), research and analyse the simulation topic, submit simulation paper before the simulation, and make an oral presentation at the simulation on the country or NGO you are to represent, and actively participate in class discussions during the simulation.		
PRODUCT:	Written Piece		
FORMAT:	<p>You will be assigned a state or NGO that is active on the UN Human Rights Council. You will also be assigned a topic area regarding a contemporary issue, crisis, or event of international justice and human rights that will be discussed in the UNHRC. You will investigate, research and analyse this topic. Using this research and critical thinking you will develop and write a research paper addressing this topic area. During the simulation you will report on your research and findings.</p> <p>Important guidelines and discussion regarding the topic, how to approach it, and the simulation, will be presented throughout the semester prior to the simulation and guidelines will be given.</p> <p>The Symposium paper (3a - 2000 words) will be written as a formal academic report and will apply the Harvard style of referencing with a List of References (LOR).</p>		
CRITERIA:	No.	Learning Outcome assessed	
	1	Attendance is required at the simulation guidelines session and at the simulation event.	1
	2	The simulation written piece (3a) will be assessed by the degree of achievement in the following areas: formation of relevant knowledge	1 2 3 4
	3	critical analysis and argument	1 2 3 4
	4	effective communication	1 2
	5	presentation in required format	3 4

All - Assessment Task 3b: United Nations Human Rights Council simulation

GOAL:	The simulation event has been designed to create an authentic research and industry experience simulating the workings of the UNHRC. It is a requirement of the course to attend to all sessions of this simulation. You will attend the simulation guidelines session (held in class), research and analyse the simulation topic, submit simulation paper before the simulation, and then make an oral presentation at the simulation on the state or NGO you have been assigned to represent, and actively participate in class discussions during the simulation.		
PRODUCT:	Oral		
FORMAT:	<p>Submit: Week 11 & 12 (as allocated by lecturer in week 2).</p> <p>You will be allotted country or NGO and a topic (in Week 2) regarding a contemporary issue or event of international justice and human rights that will be raised in the UNHRC. This topic will be investigated and analysed, and you will represent your country or NGO on the Council. Using this research and critical thinking you will develop and write a research paper addressing the topic area. During the simulation you will report on your research and findings on the topic area. Important guidelines and discussion regarding the topic, how to approach it, and the simulation, will be presented throughout the semester prior to the simulation and guidelines will be given in class. The simulation oral presentation will be given orally to the class (3b) during the simulation. This will include an introductory speech outlining your position (1 minute) and then contribute toward the working of the UNHRC as it seek a resolution on the topic area.</p> <p>The simulation is an opportunity for you to discuss your paper's research and findings and for you to represent your country or NGO in an international forum. So, in addition to writing the paper and presenting your research you are also required to participate actively in the simulation.</p>		
CRITERIA:	No.		Learning Outcome assessed
	1	Attendance is required at the simulation guidelines session and at the simulation event.	1
	2	The simulation oral presentation (3b) will be assessed by the degree of achievement in the following areas: formation of relevant knowledge	2 3 4
	3	critical analysis and argument	2 3 4
	4	effective communication	3 4
	5	presentation in required format	1 3 4

7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Directed study hours may vary by location. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Blackboard site– Please log in as soon as possible.

8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	PUBLISHER
Required	Daniel Moeckli, Sangeeta Shah, and Sandesh Sivakumaran	2014	International Human Rights Law	Oxford University Press, Great Clarendon Street, Oxford, United Kingdom

8.2. Specific requirements

Not applicable

9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Blackboard, are electronically checked through SafeAssign. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work that SafeAssign has access to.

10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day - 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.

- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task. Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late. To request an extension you must contact your course coordinator to negotiate an outcome.

10.4. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or studentcentral@usc.edu.au.

10.5. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 1226.

10.6. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, , injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email AccessAbility@usc.edu.au or call 07 5430 2890.

10.7. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Administration of Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Academic Misconduct
- Students with a Disability

Visit the USC website: <http://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

10.8. General Enquiries

In person:

- **USC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **USC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **USC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **USC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **USC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **USC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

Tel: +61 7 5430 2890

Email: studentcentral@usc.edu.au