



INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES (INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE)

2017/2018

2nd semester

Professor Susan Lamb

How does law respond to experiences of war and atrocity crimes? This question has animated conflicts throughout the world, from Nazi Germany to the former Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Cambodia, Sierra Leone and more recently, Syria. This subject explores the core concepts and institutions of international criminal justice. This area of law exists at the confluence of criminal law, international law, and human rights. It culminated in the creation of the International Criminal Court (ICC), headquartered in The Hague: the world's first permanent international criminal court and a critically important institution in the pursuit of accountability for international crimes.

The course includes in-depth case studies of institutions, crimes, procedures, and country or regional situations. It will consider the jurisdiction, structures and processes of various international criminal tribunals, including the ICC. The subject will also address criticisms of international criminal justice, and explain the sensitive political environment in which these institutions operate, identifying major challenges to the efficacy of the ICC and other international criminal tribunals.

The lecturer brings a wealth of practical experience and insight to the subject. Professor Susan Lamb worked for many years with various international criminal tribunals, including as an international legal advisor to the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), Chief of Staff of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) and Senior Judicial

Coordinator of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC).

Principal topics in the subject include:

- The history of international criminal tribunals and courts, from Nuremberg to the International Criminal Court;
- Core crimes, such as war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide, and aggression;
- Selected crimes, such as rape and sexual violence;
- Doctrines of criminal responsibility, such as individual criminal responsibility and modes of participation;
- Scope of and limitations to the jurisdiction of the major international criminal tribunals, including the International Criminal Court:
- Understanding the proceedings before international criminal tribunals: preliminary examinations; formal investigations; trial proceedings (including victim participation); sentencing; appeals.
- Major challenges to the efficacy of international criminal tribunals.

A student who has successfully completed this subject will have an understanding of, and ability to critically engage with and reflect on, the bodies of knowledge associated with current international criminal law. In particular, the student will:

- Understand the legal complexities of attributing criminal responsibility for international crimes;
- Understand the legal structure of and the variety of approaches to the core international crimes, as well as important modes of participation and key defences;
- Evaluate contemporary theories of crimes against humanity and genocide and be equipped to follow future decisions and judgments of the ICC critically;

- Understand the contemporary historical development of international criminal law and its relation to discourses of criminal law, international law and human rights;
- Recognise the relationship between national and international jurisdictions for the prosecution of grave international crimes;
- Comprehend the basic workings and background to the establishment of the UN's ad hoc criminal tribunals and the permanent International Criminal Court, and of the ICC's role and place amongst the world's major international courts and tribunals;
- Understand the variety of roles available to international criminal law in national, regional and local responses to atrocity crimes; and
- Become increasingly aware of the constraints and political sensitivities surrounding the work of international criminal tribunals and develop the capacity to take an informed position on policy choices confronting these institutions.

Dec. 2017



ICC (The Hague) - Jean-Pierre Bemba Sentencing, 2017

Webpage : <https://www.icc-cpi.int/>