



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MA International Human Rights Practice

Course Code: MAHRP

2026/27

MA International Human Rights Practice

(MAHRP)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at 12/2025

General Information

Award	MA International Human Rights Practice
Contained awards	Postgraduate Certificate International Human Rights Practice Postgraduate Diploma International Human Rights Practice
Awarding body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of qualification and credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
Course lengths and standard timescales	<p>Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 12 months (full time, campus based)• 24 months (part time, campus based) <p>Note: There are September and January starts.</p>
Part time study	<p>PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. PT students will be supported by the course team to determine an appropriate selection of modules from the level for each year of study. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence from that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that a work placement option is not generally available to PT students.</p>
Location(s) of delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.

Entry requirements

Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/>

Admissions enquiries may be directed to:

AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Course fees

Course fees are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Policies, Standards and Regulations

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

Standard regulations apply to this course.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional body

N/A

Accreditation/recognition summary

N/A

Timetable

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Key Contacts

Your course director

Dr Robin Redhead

R.Redhead@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Your course administrator

You will be informed of your Course Administrator during induction week. The email address for the admin team is:

PIRAdmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

- Transform students into sophisticated, independent and critical thinkers in the field of international human rights practice.
- Provide students with an understanding of the concepts, theories and methods used in the study of international human rights practice.
- Provide students with knowledge of the origins, evolution and contemporary dynamics of human rights within the international system and challenges to it.
- Support students in their transition to postgraduate study so that all students will become confident in their academic and professional abilities and be able to apply their knowledge and skills within complex situations.
- Provide students with a thorough understanding of research, both as a practice and as a product, and be fully prepared for further development in either an academic, or professional, environment.
- Enable students to apply their knowledge of international human rights practice with originality within advanced academic contexts.

Course learning outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	Demonstrate a sophistication in their critical thinking that reflects independence of thought and understanding of the nature and significance of human rights as a human activity.
2	Apply concepts, theories and methods used in the study of human rights to analyse practices and issues in the international system.
3	Demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the origins, evolution and contemporary dynamics of human rights within the international system and the challenges to it.
4	Evaluate different interpretations of human rights practices within complex international situations.
5	Demonstrate a thorough understanding of research, both as a practice and as a product, and be fully prepared for further development in either an academic, or professional, environment.

6	Demonstrate knowledge with originality, through the production of a significant piece of high level independent work in the field of international human rights practice.
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Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

Teaching will be delivered via blended learning, with in person seminars, and additional online resources provided via our Virtual Learning Environment. Teaching methods will focus on small group discussion and debate, supported by mini lectures where appropriate, and supplemented by sessions in IT labs to develop skills using appropriate software. Students are encouraged to set their own tasks, within clearly identified structures, to meet the learning outcomes and assessment criteria. Similarly, reading lists are less prescriptive and encourage students to locate their own resources. Students will benefit from having access to outside speakers through the Politics & International Relations Festival and seminar series which will broaden their learning experience. The VLE (My Beckett) is used to provide materials, but is also a forum for discussion, assessment and the sharing of resources and feedback.

The range of learning activities not only provides an opportunity for students to develop communication skills via different media, but also accommodates different learning styles amongst students.

The course ensures that teaching and learning contexts are (i) non- discriminatory and tailored for each student with a reasonable adjustment plan; (ii) respectful and valuing the perspectives and experiences each individual can offer; (iii) promoting the values and practices associated with inclusive attitudes and behaviours in others.

Your modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

September Starters Full Time

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
MA Dissertation & Research Design	60	1 and 2
Civilian Protection	20	1
International Human Rights Law	30	1
Developing & Managing Projects	20	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	130	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Politics and International Relations Option Modules:		
Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights or Theorising Human Rights*	20	2
Out of Control: Global Crime, Risk and Insecurity	20	2
Theorising Peace and Conflict	20	2
War, Crime and Violence	20	2
From Field to Fork: Food History in a Global World	20	2
Law Option Modules		
Competition Law and the Digital Economy	30	2
Democracy, Rule of Law and Human Rights	30	2
International Commercial Law	30	2
Genocide and War Crimes	30	2
International Trade Law	30	2
Laws of Armed Conflict and Use of Force	30	2
Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking	30	2
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	50	

*Only one of the modules, Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights or Theorising Human Rights will run in a given year, depending on staff deployment.

Full time students will study one Politics and International Relations option module (20 credits) and one Law option module (30 credits) in Semester 2 (50 credits in total).

January Starters Full Time

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
MA Dissertation & Research Design	60	1 and 2
Developing & Managing Projects	20	1
Civilian Protection	20	2
International Human Rights Law	30	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	130	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Politics and International Relations Option Modules:		
Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights or Theorising Human Rights*	20	1
Out of Control: Global Crime, Risk and Insecurity	20	1

Theorising Peace and Conflict	20	1
War, Crime and Violence	20	1
From Field to Fork: Food History in a Global World	20	1
Law Option Modules		
Competition Law and the Digital Economy	30	1
Democracy, Rule of Law and Human Rights	30	1
International Commercial Law	30	1
Genocide and War Crimes	30	1
International Trade Law	30	1
Laws of Armed Conflict and Use of Force	30	1
Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking	30	1
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	50	

*Only one of the modules, Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights or Theorising Human Rights will run in a given year, depending on staff deployment.

Full time students will study one Politics and International Relations option module (20 credits) and one Law option module (30 credits) in Semester 1 (50 credits in total).

September Starters Part Time

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Civilian Protection	20	Semester 1 Year 1
International Human Rights Law	30	Semester 1 Year 1
Developing & Managing Projects	20	Semester 2 Year 1
MA Dissertation & Research Design	60	Semesters 1 and 2 Year 2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	130	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Politics and International Relations Option Modules:		
Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights or Theorising Human Rights*	20	Semester 2 Year 2
Out of Control: Global Crime, Risk and Insecurity	20	Semester 2 Year 2
Theorising Peace and Conflict	20	Semester 2 Year 2
War, Crime and Violence	20	Semester 2 Year 2
From Field to Fork: Food History in a Global World	20	Semester 2 Year 2
Law Option Modules		
Competition Law and the Digital Economy	30	Semester 2 Year 2
Democracy, Rule of Law and Human Rights	30	Semester 2 Year 2

International Commercial Law	30	Semester 2 Year 2
Genocide and War Crimes	30	Semester 2 Year 2
International Trade Law	30	Semester 2 Year 2
Laws of Armed Conflict and Use of Force	30	Semester 2 Year 2
Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking	30	Semester 2 Year 2
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	50	

*Only one of the modules, Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights or Theorising Human Rights will run in a given year, depending on staff deployment.

In Year 1, September starting part-time students will study two core modules in Semester 1 and one core module in Semester 2.

In Year 2, September starting part-time students will undertake the MA Dissertation & Research Design across both semesters, as well as two option modules (one Politics and International Relations option module and one Law option module) in Semester 2.

January Starters Part Time

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Developing & Managing Projects	20	Semester 1 Year 1
Civilian Protection	20	Semester 2 Year 1
International Human Rights Law	30	Semester 2 Year 2
MA Dissertation & Research Design	60	Semesters 1 and 2 Year 2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	130	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Law Option Modules		
Competition Law and the Digital Economy	30	Semester 1 Year 1
Democracy, Rule of Law and Human Rights	30	Semester 1 Year 1
International Commercial Law	30	Semester 1 Year 1
Genocide and War Crimes	30	Semester 1 Year 1
International Trade Law	30	Semester 1 Year 1
Laws of Armed Conflict and Use of Force	30	Semester 1 Year 1
Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking	30	Semester 1 Year 1
Politics and International Relations Option Modules:		
Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights or Theorising Human Rights*	20	Semester 1 Year 2
Out of Control: Global Crime, Risk and Insecurity	20	Semester 1 Year 2
Theorising Peace and Conflict	20	Semester 1 Year 2

War, Crime and Violence	20	Semester 1 Year 2
From Field to Fork: Food History in a Global World	20	Semester 1 Year 2
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	50	

*Only one of the modules, Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights or Theorising Human Rights will run in a given year, depending on staff deployment.

In Year 1, January starting part-time students will study one core module and one Law option module in Semester 1, and one core module in Semester 2.

In Year 2, January Starting part-time students will undertake the MA Dissertation & Research Design across both Semesters, as well as one Politics and International Relations option module in Semester 1, and one core module in Semester 2.

Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director, but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

On this course students will be assessed by coursework predominantly, with some timed and practical assessments.

Workload

Overall Workload	
Teaching, learning and assessment	158 hours
Independent study	1842 hours
Placement	-