# International humanitarian law 420 (PUR 420)

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| **Qualification** | Undergraduate |
| **Faculty** | Faculty of Law |
| **Module credits** | 10.00 |
| **NQF Level** | 08 |
| **Prerequisites** | Admission to the relevant programme and Final Year Academic Level. |
| **Contact time** | 2 lectures per week |
| **Language of tuition** | Module is presented in English |
| **Department** | Public Law |
| **Period of presentation** | Semester 2 |

**Module content**

*For LLB

a. What is international humanitarian law (the law of war)?: the distinction between ius ad bellum and ius in bello
b. The historical development and sources of international humanitarian law (IHL)
c. Different types of armed conflict: The distinction between international and non-international armed conflicts
d. Distinction between combatants and civilians
e. The prisoner of war (POW) status: soldiers, spies, mercenaries and guerrillas
f. Conduct of hostilities: legal restraints on how war is to be waged (including the prohibition of certain weapons and the targets that may be engaged during hostilities)
g. The distinction between genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes
h. Winners or losers: war, international politics and the implementation of IHL
i. The protection of women and children during armed conflict
j. Accountability or impunity: the prosecution of war crimes by national courts, ad hoc tribunals (the ICTY and ICTR) and the International Criminal Court (ICC)
k. The devil made me do it: superior orders and command responsibility during war
l. The role of International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)