



TWO-CREDIT COURSE ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW

By the Centre for Advanced Study in
International Humanitarian Law, Rajiv
Gandhi National University of Law

30 MAY - 28 JUNE 2026



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

The Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law (RGNUL), Punjab was established by the State Legislature of Punjab by passing the Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab Act, 2006 (Punjab Act No. 12 of 2006). The Act incorporated a law university of national stature in Punjab, thereby fulfilling the need for a Centre of Excellence in legal education in the modern era of globalisation and liberalization. The University acquired the approval of the Bar Council of India (BCI) in July 2006.

In May 2015, the University became the first and only NLU to get accreditation by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with an 'A' grade. In 2018, RGNUL was amongst the four NLUs to have been granted autonomous status by the University Grants Commission. The University has been ranked among the top 10 law schools in India under the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), by the Union Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. The University is currently emphasizing on research, training, and consultancy in various of contemporary legal interests and envisages to be a research-intensive university in times to come.

ABOUT THE CENTRE

The Centre for Advanced Studies in International Humanitarian Law (CASH) is one of the Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab's flagship centres. The Centre aims to further its objective of bridging the gap between the theory and practice of humanitarian law. It is established to facilitate research and discourse in the various facets of international humanitarian law by analysing current policy approaches in tackling contemporary global issues. It further streamlines the process of learning through academic courses, programs, and publications.

The Centre follows a multi-disciplinary approach to identifying problems in international humanitarian law and endeavours to engage in dialogue to facilitate change. Therefore, it helps ensure that future leaders and policy-makers understand the practical relevance of the subject of IHL and have a thorough knowledge of its basic principles and frameworks.

ABOUT THE COURSE

International law typically governs the rights and responsibilities of States; criminal law, conversely, is paradigmatically concerned with prohibitions addressed to individuals. The rapid evolution of modern technology — from autonomous weapons and drone warfare to artificial intelligence in military operations — has created a pressing need to examine how existing frameworks of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) respond to these challenges.

The development of a body of international law which imposes responsibilities directly on States and non-State actors in technologically-driven conflicts is a defining challenge of the 21st century. This Certificate Course aims to link discussions of legal theory, jurisprudence and practice to scholarship and emerging opinion in exploring how IHL principles apply to modern warfare technologies.

The subject of IHL in modern warfare has assumed immense significance globally and offers unique avenues for legal discourse in the 21st century. In ensuring recognition, compliance and the continued development of IHL norms, it becomes essential to sensitize students, researchers and legal practitioners to the intersection of law and emerging technologies in armed conflict.

ABOUT THE COURSE (CONTD.)

Aim of the Course

This Course will allow students to explore the intersection of international humanitarian law and emerging military technologies, developing their understanding of the legal, ethical and accountability dimensions of modern warfare within the international legal order.

In particular, it aims to:

- Sensitize learners with the foundational principles of IHL and how they apply to the evolving landscape of modern warfare technologies.
- Create awareness about the legal and ethical concerns arising from the use of drones and autonomous systems in armed conflicts.
- Provide an introduction to cyber warfare and AI in military operations, covering practical cases, legal basis and ethical implications.
- Examine the challenges of protecting civilians in technology-driven warfare and the difficulties in assessing IHL adherence.
- Critically evaluate the adequacy of the current IHL framework to address increasingly unique and complex forms of modern military technology.
- Develop the analytical and critical thinking skills of learners in discussing and resolving issues related to IHL and modern warfare.

Teaching Pedagogy

The Course will be taught through online lectures by experts in the areas of international humanitarian law, military technology and international relations. Together with the lectures and case studies, other collaborative methods, including moot scenarios, policy discussions and comparative legal analysis, may also be utilised to analyse the issues surrounding the various aspects of IHL as applied to modern warfare technologies.

Note: All the scheduled lectures will be held only on Saturdays and Sundays in the evening (from 5:00 to 8:00 PM). After the successful registration and payment of the fees, students will be informed of the specific schedule.

ABOUT THE COURSE (CONTD.)

Evaluation: The Course offers two credits and for the purposes of evaluation, an examination based on relevant MCQs/Quizzes relating to the topics discussed shall be held in an online mode. Each participant must have 75% attendance to be eligible for the examination and must secure at least 55% marks to be eligible for a certificate.

Important Dates:

Commencement of Registration: 9th April 2026

Last Date of Payment & Registration: 28th May 2026

Commencement of Course Lectures: 30th May 2026

Registration: The Course fee is Rs. 500/- excluding GST for RGNUL Students and Rs. 800/- excluding GST for others. Students wishing to attend the course have to register using the link. The last day for registration is **28th May 2026**.

[Registration Form Link](#)

[Payment Link](#)

COURSE CONTENT

- **Introduction of International Humanitarian Law (IHL):** From Hague to Geneva- The Journey of IHL, Sources of IHL, Difference between IHL and IHRL, Classification of Armed Conflicts
- **Core Principles and Protected Categories under IHL:** Principle of Distinction, Proportionality and Military Necessity, Protection of the Sick, Wounded, Shipwrecked, Prisoners of War, Civilians, Women, Children and Medical Personnel etc., Analysis of the Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols
- **Conduct of Hostilities and Modern Warfare:** Prohibited Weapons, Autonomous Weapons System (AWS), Cyber Warfare
- **Conflict- Climate-Environment:** Protection of Environment, Cultural Property, Climate Vulnerability.
- **Implementation and Enforcement of IHL:** Grave Breaches Regime, State Responsibility and Individual Criminal Responsibility, Role of the International Criminal Court
- **Humanitarian Assistance and Challenges:** Role of ICRC, Issue of Private Military companies, National Measures for implementation of IHL, New Challenges and IHL

Note: A detailed schedule and proper syllabus per week will be released after registration closes.

CONTACT US

Queries on the Course, including registration and administrative questions, should be directed to il@rgnul.ac.in

Chief Patron

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RGNUL Punjab

Patron

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