

|                               |                                                    |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Module code:</b> MOD011448 | <b>Version:</b> 1 <b>Date Amended:</b> 16/Apr/2026 |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|

|                                  |
|----------------------------------|
| <b>1. Module Title</b>           |
| Environmental Law and Governance |

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| <b>2a. Module Leader</b> |
| Angus Nurse              |

|                                      |
|--------------------------------------|
| <b>2b. School</b>                    |
| School of Economics, Finance and Law |

|                             |
|-----------------------------|
| <b>2c. Faculty</b>          |
| Faculty of Business and Law |

|                  |
|------------------|
| <b>3a. Level</b> |
| 7                |

|                        |
|------------------------|
| <b>3b. Module Type</b> |
| Standard (fine graded) |

|                    |
|--------------------|
| <b>4a. Credits</b> |
| 15                 |

|                        |
|------------------------|
| <b>4b. Study Hours</b> |
| 150                    |

|                                                    |                    |                    |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <b>5. Restrictions</b>                             |                    |                    |                  |
| <b>Type</b>                                        | <b>Module Code</b> | <b>Module Name</b> | <b>Condition</b> |
| Pre-requisites:                                    | None               |                    |                  |
| Co-requisites:                                     | None               |                    |                  |
| Exclusions:                                        | None               |                    |                  |
| <b>Courses to which this module is restricted:</b> |                    |                    |                  |

## LEARNING, TEACHING AND ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

### 6a. Module Description

In this module, you will explore the legal and institutional frameworks that underpin global and national efforts to protect the environment and promote sustainable development. You will examine how environmental law interacts with governance processes, policy-making, and ethical principles to address complex environmental challenges such as pollution, biodiversity loss, and climate change.

You will critically evaluate the principles and instruments of environmental law, including prevention, precaution, and sustainable development, and assess their effectiveness in practice. The module will consider the roles of states, corporations, international organisations, and civil society in shaping environmental outcomes, as well as the tensions between economic growth, environmental protection, and social justice.

By the end of the module, you will be able to analyse and apply environmental legal principles to governance contexts, assess the effectiveness of regulatory and policy responses, and formulate informed, justice-oriented perspectives on reform and sustainability.

### 6b. Outline Content

- Foundations of Environmental Law: Origins, objectives, and key principles of environmental protection.
- Governance and Institutions
- International Environmental Frameworks
- Principles of Environmental Protection
- Environmental Policy and Regulation
- Accountability and Enforcement
- Corporate Environmental Governance
- Emerging Challenges

### 6c. Key Texts/Literature

The reading list to support this module is available at: <https://readinglists.aru.ac.uk/>

### 6d. Specialist Learning Resources

None

| 7. Learning Outcomes (threshold standards) |                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| No.                                        | Type                                                        | On successful completion of this module the student will be expected to be able to:                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1                                          | Knowledge and Understanding                                 | Critically evaluate and synthesise the key principles, doctrines, and legal frameworks of environmental law and governance, assessing how they interact to address complex and contested global environmental challenges.                               |
| 2                                          | Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills | Critically analyse and interrogate a range of legal materials, policy instruments, and theoretical perspectives in environmental regulation and governance, identifying ambiguity, conflict, and opportunities for reform.                              |
| 3                                          | Knowledge and Understanding                                 | Apply and evaluate complex legal and governance principles to practical, interdisciplinary, or international scenarios, demonstrating critical insight, creativity, and integration of legal, ethical, and policy dimensions.                           |
| 4                                          | Intellectual, practical, affective and transferrable skills | Produce sophisticated and critically structured legal arguments tailored to academic or professional audiences in written form, communicating with precision, originality, and authority, and adhering to advanced academic and professional standards. |

| 8a. Module Occurrence to which this MDF Refers |            |                                             |          |                  |
|------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------------|----------|------------------|
| Year                                           | Occurrence | Period                                      | Location | Mode of Delivery |
| 2026/7                                         | ZZF        | Template For Face To Face Learning Delivery |          | Face to Face     |

| 8b. Learning Activities for the above Module Occurrence |       |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Learning Activities                                     | Hours | Learning Outcomes | Details of Duration, frequency and other comments                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Lectures                                                | 0     | N/A               | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Other teacher managed learning                          | 25    | 1-4               | Tutor Led Workshop (TLW): 1 x 1-hour TLW x 11 weeks (Teaching Weeks 1-11) AND Student Led Workshop (SLW): 1 x 1-hour SLW x 11 weeks (Teaching Weeks 1-11) PLUS Screencast: 1 x 20min screencast x 10 weeks (Teaching Weeks 1-10) |
| Student managed learning                                | 125   | 1-4               | To include such things as watching screencasts, online discussion boards, VLE exercises and activities, private study, workshop preparation, assessment preparation and completion.                                              |
| TOTAL:                                                  | 150   |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

| 9. Assessment for the above Module Occurrence                                                                                                          |                   |                   |               |                         |                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Assessment No.                                                                                                                                         | Assessment Method | Learning Outcomes | Weighting (%) | Fine Grade or Pass/Fail | Qualifying Mark (%) |
| 010                                                                                                                                                    | Coursework        | 1-4               | 100 (%)       | Fine Grade              | 40 (%)              |
| <b>Case study application of substantive law and critical evaluation of the effectiveness of the legal framework</b><br><b>Wordcount: Maximum 3000</b> |                   |                   |               |                         |                     |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>In order to pass this module, students are required to achieve an overall mark of 40% (for modules at levels 3, 4, 5 and 6) or 50% (for modules at level 7*).</p> <p>In addition, students are required to:</p> <p>(a) achieve the qualifying mark for each element of fine graded assessment as specified above</p> <p>(b) pass any pass/fail elements</p> <p>[* the pass mark of 50% applies for all module occurrences from the academic year 2024/25 – see Section 3a of this MDF to check the level of the module and Section 8a of this MDF to check the academic year]</p> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|