



Course Code: M.A. (DLB)0726
Course Title: Combating Human Trafficking
Programme: Cross Elective [BA & MA]
Semester: Spring 2026

Course Information

Course Duration: 15 weeks
Credit Hours: 45 hours
Meetings: 15 hours of office meetings
Location: JGU Campus
Prerequisites: No prerequisite
Equivalent Courses: Criminal justice, transnational organised crimes
Exclusive Courses: Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

Instructor Information

Instructor: Rita Iorbo

Biography: Rita Iorbo is a Sociologist with interests in peace and conflict studies, forced displacement, human security, and human rights. She holds a doctorate in Behavioural Sciences of the O.P. Jindal Global University, India; a Master of Arts in International Peace Studies of the United Nations-mandated University for Peace, Costa Rica and Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology from Benue State University, Makurdi-Nigeria. Her doctoral research focused on the Social Inclusion and Psychosocial issues of internally displaced persons. She is an Assistant Professor in the Jindal School of International Affairs (JSIA) of the O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonipat, India and an Affiliate of the Refugee Law Initiative (<https://rli.sas.ac.uk/people/rita-iorbo>), at the University of London.

Email: riorbo@jgu.edu.in

Phone: 7419748206

Office: Room 09 West, 4th Floor, FOB

Office Hours: 11.30am – 12.30pm [Tuesdays]

Homepage: <https://jgu.edu.in/jsia/dr-rita-iorbo/>

1. Course Description

Combating human trafficking provides a comprehensive understanding of human trafficking, its forms, and its impact on individuals and communities. Students will learn about the concept and root causes of human trafficking, the experiences of survivors, and effective strategies for prevention, protection, and prosecution. Human Trafficking in all its forms, including modern slavery are crimes prohibited under international laws, the course helps students to understanding criminalisation of trafficking and protection from international laws. This course introduces students to the realities of human trafficking and modern slavery as human rights violations that affect men, women, and children of all ages globally. It equips students with knowledge through awareness creation for the purpose of combating slavery in its contemporary forms and the crime of trafficking in persons. The course uses research, class activities and analysis to help students identify trafficking in persons and slavery victims and be able to combat these violations by contributing to policy.

2. Course Intended Learning Objectives(Aim)

Course Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Activities	Assessments/ Activities
Develop analytical skills for understanding human trafficking and the concept of consent in adult and child trafficking	Class-led seminars Storytelling Video Screenings and Analysis	Quizzes Case studies
Develop skills for understanding the intersection between trafficking and human rights violation		Research paper- take home assignment
Develop critical understanding of international law and cooperation in criminalising human trafficking		Quizzes, midterm closed book exams
Develop in-depth understanding of the global trends and root causes of human trafficking		Group case presentations, end term exams

3. Scheme of Evaluation and Grading

4. Assessment	Weightage	Remarks
Internal	70%	
In class Activity*	Internal 10 Marks	Internal Two in class activities of 5 marks each over various concept of the module
Research paper	20 Marks	Take home paper
Mid-term exam*	20 Marks	Closed book assessment.
Case Study	20 Marks	Group paper project to reflect selected case study analysis based on the learning design
External End Semester Examination	External 30%	External There will be an end semester examination for all students to analyse the theoretical reasoning and case analysis over the modules (closed book timed examination).

Grade Definition

COURSE LETTER GRADES AND THEIR INTERPRETATION			
Letter Grade	Percentage of Marks	Grade Points	Interpretation
O	80 and above	8	Outstanding: Exceptional knowledge of the subject matter, thorough understanding of issues; ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles and extraordinary critical and analytical ability.
A+	75 - 79	7.5	Excellent: Sound knowledge of the subject matter, thorough understanding of issues; ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles and critical and analytical ability.
A	70 - 74	7	Very Good: Sound knowledge of the subject matter, excellent organizational capacity, ability to synthesize ideas, rules and principles, critically analyse existing material and originality in thinking and presentation.
A-	65 -69	6	Good: Good understanding of the subject matter, ability to identify issues and provide balanced solutions to problems and good critical and analytical skills.
B+	60 - 64	5	Fair: Average understanding of the subject matter, limited ability to identify issues and provide solutions to problems and reasonable critical and analytical skills.
B	55 - 59	4	Acceptable: Adequate knowledge of the subject matter to go to the next level of the study and reasonable critical and analytical skills.
B-	50 - 54	3	Marginal: Limited knowledge of the subject matter and irrelevant use of materials, and poor critical and analytical skills.
P1	45 - 49	2	Pass 1: Pass with Basic understanding of the subject matter.
P2	40 - 44	1	Pass 2: Pass with Rudimentary understanding of the subject matter.
F	Below 40	0	Fail: Poor comprehension of the subject matter; poor critical and analytical skills and marginal use of the relevant materials. Will require repeating the course.

4. Academic Integrity

Academic Honesty, Cheating, and Plagiarism.

Plagiarism is the use of someone else's words OR ideas without proper acknowledgement. Any idea, sentence, or paragraph you take from a web source or from printed material must be credited with the original source. If you paraphrase or directly quote in the exam or essays, the source must be explicitly mentioned. You should not plagiarize content, be it from scholarly sources (i.e., books and journal articles) or from the Internet.

Plagiarism Penalty Structure

Penalties

- Level 0:** Similarities up to 10% - Minor Similarities, no penalty.
- Level 1:** Similarities between 11% to 20% - Such student shall receive a reduction of 5 marks.
- Level 2:** Similarities between 21% to 29% - Such student shall receive a penalty of 10 marks.
- Level 3:** Similarities of 30% and above -Award of Fail Grade

Participation/Attendance Policy

Class participation: Active participation and 75% attendance are required for this class. The student is expected to actively engage in class discussions and demonstrate understanding of concepts, theories and application.

Use of phone/ texting/ laptop

Electronic devices are not permitted. Students are advised to use notebooks during classes.

5. Keyword Syllabus

Trafficking in persons. Modern slavery. Human rights.

6. Course Material

Textbooks

- Cameron, S. & Newman, E (eds). (2008) Trafficking in humans: Social, cultural and political dimensions. <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/619051?ln=en&v=pdf>
- Stickle, W., Hickman, S., & White, C. (2019). Human Trafficking: A Comprehensive Exploration of Modern Day Slavery. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage. ISBN: 9781506375038

Reference books

None

Web Sources

- Inside the Business of Modern Slavery. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VR9SBg9k4HA>
- Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children. United Nations University Press. <https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/ProtocolonTrafficking.pdf>
- United Nations. (2014). Human Rights and Human Trafficking. https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Publications/FS36_en.pdf
- United Nations. Convention against transnational organized crime and the protocols thereto. https://www.unodc.org/documents/middleeastandnorthafrica/organised-crime/UNITED_NATIONS_CONVENTION_AGAINST_TRANSNATIONAL_ORGANIZED_CRIME_AND_THE_PROTOCOLS_THERETO.pdf
- United Nations.(2023). Child trafficking and armed conflict. <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Child-trafficking-and-armed-conflict-web.pdf>
- United Nations. (n.d.). Universal Declaration of Human Rights. <https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>
- United Nations. (n.d.). Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29). <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/forced-labour-convention-1930-no-29>
- UNODC. (2009). Combating trafficking in persons: A Handbook for Parliamentarians. https://www.unodc.org/documents/middleeastandnorthafrica/human_trafficking_indicators/Handbook_for_Parliamentarians_tafficking_in_persons_English_.pdf
- UN (1979). Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women New York, 18 December 1979. <https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-elimination-all-forms-discrimination-against-women>
- UN. (2000). Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. https://www.unodc.org/res/human-trafficking/2021the-protocol-som_html/SOM.pdf
- Migrant Smuggling and Human Trafficking. <https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/272325.pdf>
- The Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018. [https://prsindia.org/files/bills_acts/bills_parliament/2018/The%20Trafficking%20of%20Persons%20\(Prevention,%20Protection%20and%20Rehabilitation\)%20Bill,%202018.pdf](https://prsindia.org/files/bills_acts/bills_parliament/2018/The%20Trafficking%20of%20Persons%20(Prevention,%20Protection%20and%20Rehabilitation)%20Bill,%202018.pdf)

7. Session Plan

Session (with Date)	General Topic	Readings	Approach/Pedagogy
Week 1	Course overview, video screening and discussion	Video Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children. https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/ProtocolonTrafficking.pdf	Video screening, analysis and discussion
Weeks 2-5	Defining trafficking in persons (chapter 2) Understanding forms of Human Trafficking (Chapter 1) Migrant smuggling & Human Trafficking Criminalizing and penalizing all forms of trafficking in persons (pp. 14-17)	UNODC. (2009). Combating trafficking in persons: A Handbook for Parliamentarians. https://www.unodc.org/documents/middleeastandnorthernafrica/human_trafficking_indicators/Handbook_for_Parliamentarians_trafficking_in_persons_English.pdf Addressing the root causes of trafficking https://www.unodc.org/documents/human-trafficking/Toolkit-files/08-58296_tool_9-2.pdf Migrant Smuggling and Human Trafficking. https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/272325.pdf https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/272325.pdf The Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018. https://prsindia.org/files/bills_acts/bills_parliament/2018/The%20Trafficking%20of%20Persons%20(Prevention,%20Protection%20and%20Rehabilitation)%20Bill,%202018.pdf	PPTs, discussions, video analysis, case study Interactive teaching, quiz and case studies
Week 6	Human rights violations in human trafficking	United Nations. (2014). Human Rights and Human Trafficking. https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/Documents/Publications/FS36_en.pdf United Nations. (n.d.). Universal Declaration of Human Rights. https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights United Nations. (n.d.). Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29). https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/forced-labour-convention-1930-no-29 CEDAW. https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-elimination-all-forms-discrimination-against-women	Readings, class discussions, case studies, video analysis
Weeks 7-8	Reading week Mid Semester exam	Inside the Business of Modern Slavery. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VR9SBg9k4HA Closed book assessment	Teachings, videos, discussions.

Weeks 9-11	<p>Video screening & analysis</p> <p>Child Trafficking in Armed Conflict</p> <p>Preventing trafficking in persons (chapter 5)</p> <p>Combating Human Trafficking (Chapter 6: Measures to combat the crime of trafficking in persons)</p>	<p>BBC News Africa. Silicon Valley's Online Slave Market. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2IdII_n28e0 Inside the Business of Modern Slavery. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VR9SBg9k4HA United Nations. (2023). Child trafficking and armed conflict. https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Child-trafficking-and-armed-conflict-web.pdf Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. (2013). Children and armed conflict. https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/publications/WorkingPaper-1_SixGraveViolationsLegalFoundation.pdf UNODC. (2009). Combating trafficking in persons: A Handbook for Parliamentarians.</p>	Video screening, reading materials, discussions
Weeks 12-13	Group case presentation	All forms of human trafficking	Group class activity
Week 14	Revision week	Recapping work covered, clearing students doubts	
15	End Semester Exam	Closed book assessment	