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PRESIDENCY UNIVERSITY

BENGALURU

Mid - Term Examinations –October2025

Date: 07-10-2025

Time: 11.45am to 01.15pm

School: SOL	Program: BALLB/BBALLB/BCOMLLB (Hons.)	
Course Code: LAW4054	Course Name: International Criminal Law	
Semester: VII	Max Marks:50	Weightage:25%

CO - Levels	C01	C02	C03	C04	C05
Marks	20	30	-	-	-

Instructions:

- (i) Read all questions carefully and answer accordingly.
- (ii) Do not write anything on the question paper other than roll number.

Part A

Answer ALL the Questions. Each question carries 2marks.

5Q x 2M=10M

1	Discuss how the distinction between <i>International Criminal Law</i> and <i>Domestic Criminal Law</i> can be understood through their sources of authority.	2 Marks	L2	C01
2	Illustrate how the <i>Treaty of Versailles</i> contributed to the emergence of accountability for international crimes.	2 Marks	L2	C02
3	Highlight the significance of the principle <i>Nullum Crimen Sine Lege</i> in ensuring fairness within international criminal justice.	2 Marks	L2	C02
4	Explain the impact of the <i>Genocide Convention, 1948</i> on strengthening the scope of International Criminal Law.	2 Marks	L2	C01
5	Identify how the principle of <i>State Sovereignty</i> interacts with the concept of <i>Universal Jurisdiction</i> in international criminal matters.	2 Marks	L2	C02

Part B

Answer the Questions.

Total Marks 40M

6.	<p>In the context of the ongoing conflict in Ukraine, a military commander from one of the warring nations is credibly accused of ordering the summary execution of ten unarmed prisoners of war (POWs) from the opposing side, a clear violation of their protected status under international humanitarian law.</p> <p>Using the framework of the Geneva Conventions, 1949, and the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC), critically analyze the legal avenues available to prosecute this individual.</p> <p>a Violation of International Law: Detail how the alleged act constitutes a grave breach of the Third Geneva Convention and, consequently, a war crime under the ICC Statute.</p> <p>b Individual Criminal Responsibility: Discuss the principle of individual criminal responsibility and how it applies to this military commander, even if they were acting under orders.</p>	5*2 =10 Marks	L4	CO 2
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Or

7.	<p>A newly independent state refuses to extradite a leader accused of genocide, citing <i>State Sovereignty</i>. Examine how the <i>Genocide Convention, 1948</i> and the doctrine of <i>Universal Jurisdiction</i> could be applied in this situation.</p>	10 Marks	L4	CO 2
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8.	<p>How did the Nuremberg Tribunal's judgment dismantle the traditional defense that a sovereign state's actions are beyond the reach of international law? Discuss the legal basis for the prosecution's argument that the atrocities constituted "crimes against humanity", a category that transcends national law.</p>	10 Marks	L4	CO 1
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Or

9.	<p>Demonstrate an understanding of how the defense based on acts committed prior to the enactment of an international statute can be evaluated with reference to the principle of non-application of statute of limitations and the doctrine of <i>Nullum Crimen Sine Lege</i>.</p>	10 Marks	L4	CO 1
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10.	<p>Amidst the conflict in the Gaza Strip, a 17-year-old combatant from a Palestinian armed group is captured by Israeli forces. During questioning, the individual confesses to having participated in the deliberate and unprovoked killing of a civilian and a captured Israeli soldier. Evidence, including video footage and witness testimonies, corroborates these</p>	10 Marks	L3	CO 2
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	<p>accounts. The case gains international attention, with human rights organizations and legal experts calling for accountability.</p> <p>Based on this scenario, critically analyze how international criminal law addresses the issue of criminal liability for a person under the age of 18, with specific reference to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the legal frameworks governing the conflict.</p>		
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Or

11.	Analyze the tension between <i>Principle of State Sovereignty</i> and international intervention in prosecuting crimes against humanity. Support your answer with examples from international case law.	10 Marks	L5	CO 2
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12.	Consider a scenario where an accused claims that their acts were carried out under superior orders. Assess how International Criminal Law determines responsibility in such cases, with special reference to the principles of exclusion of liabilities and mental element.	10 Marks	L4	CO 1
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Or

13.	Using the <i>ILC Draft Code of Crimes against the Peace and Security of Mankind</i> , evaluate how codification attempts contributed to the development of International Criminal Law and its guiding principles.	10 Marks	L5	CO 1
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