

Program – IHL Summer School 2026

Lunch breaks are every day from **Noon to 13:30** *unless otherwise indicated.*

SUNDAY | May 31, 2026

SESSION	DESCRIPTION
Participants registration	<p>13:00 – 13:30 3rd Floor FAUTEUX HALL (57 Louis-Pasteur Private) University of Ottawa</p> <p><i>Please come and confirm your registration for the course. If you are not able to do so during the first registration period, please do so Monday morning at 8:15.</i></p>
Afternoon session Basic overview of Public International Law.	<p>Professor Penelope Simons University of Ottawa Fanny Dagenais-Dion Canadian Red Cross 13:30 – 16:30 Room FTX302</p> <p><i>Mandatory introductory session for all participants.</i></p>

Program – IHL Summer School 2026

Lunch breaks are every day from **Noon to 13:30** unless otherwise indicated.

MONDAY | June 1, 2026

SESSION	DESCRIPTION
<p>OFFICIAL START of the IHL SUMMER SCHOOL!</p> <p>Bilingual session.</p>	<p>8:15 – 8:45 3rd Floor, FAUTEUX Hall (FTX) Registration of the participants.</p> <p>*****</p> <p>8:45 – 9:00 Room FTX302 <i>Welcome presentation and information about the course.</i></p>
<p>Morning session</p> <p>Introduction to International Humanitarian Law.</p>	<p>Professor Steve Tiwa Fomekong Université Laval 9:00 – 12:00 Room FTX302 Break (30 minutes): 10:30 Room FTX315</p> <p><i>This session will examine the philosophical and historical development of humanitarian law as well as its main goals notably to spare those who do not participate in hostility as well as limiting the violence to the amount necessary to achieve the aim of the conflict. It will further examine the relationship between jus ad bellum and jus in bello. This session will also examine the main sources of IHL and when, where and to whom it applies.</i></p>
<p>LUNCH BREAK</p>	<p>12:00 – 13:30 Free time</p>
<p>Afternoon session</p> <p>Interactive exercise.</p>	<p>Professor Marco Sassòli University of Geneva 13:30 – 16:30 Room FTX302 Break (30 minutes): 15:00 Room FTX315</p> <p><i>Interactive discussion on contemporary challenges regarding the application of International Humanitarian Law.</i></p>
<p>RECEPTION – Arrival between 17:00 and 17:15</p>	<p>Reception at the Embassy of Ukraine to Canada By invitation only.</p> <p><i>Details will be provided to participants in due course.</i></p>

Program – IHL Summer School 2026

Lunch breaks are every day from **Noon to 13:30** unless otherwise indicated.

TUESDAY | June 2, 2026

SESSION	DESCRIPTION
Morning session Combatant status and protection of detainees.	Christopher Waters University of Windsor. 9:00 – 12:00 Room FTX302 Break (30 minutes): 10:30 Room FTX315 <i>The session will examine who is to be considered a combatant in international armed conflict as well as the notion of “direct participation in hostilities” under IHL and the protections which are afforded to those who are detained.</i>
LUNCH BREAK	12:00 – 13:30 Free time
Afternoon session Protection of civilians, including protection of women and children.	Robert Young Global Affairs Canada Eneria Mucaj Global Affairs Canada 13:30 – 16:30 Room FTX302 Break (30 minutes): 15:00 Room FTX315 <i>This session will examine the protection afforded to civilians under international humanitarian law. It will include a presentation of the rules that safeguard civilians against the effects of hostilities and the rules that protect civilians who fall into the hands of the enemy. Participants will consider and discuss the special IHL provisions that seek to protect women and children.</i>

Program – IHL Summer School 2026

Lunch breaks are every day from **Noon to 13:30** unless otherwise indicated.

WEDNESDAY | June 3, 2026

SESSION	DESCRIPTION
Morning session Means and methods of warfare - Conduct of hostilities and targeting.	Major Duncan Morrison Canadian Forces Military Law Centre 9:00 – 12:00 Room FTX302 Break (30 minutes): 10:30 Room FTX315 <i>This session will explore what means and methods of warfare are permitted and prohibited by IHL and particularly “Hague law”. It will especially examine how and why certain tactics and weapons have been outlawed.</i>
Session over lunch Ethics (bilingual session)	Professor Alain Roussy University of Ottawa 12:15 – 13:15 Room FTX302 <i>A light lunch will be served to participants.</i>
Afternoon session Command responsibility.	Major Duncan Morrison Canadian Forces Military Law Centre 13:30 – 15:30 Room FTX302 Break (30 minutes): 15:30 Room FTX315 <i>This session will focus on the concepts around command responsibility.</i>
Setting the stage for Simulation Day! Mandatory bilingual session.	Fanny Dagenais-Dion Canadian Red Cross 16:00 – 17:00 Room FTX302 <i>Review of materials and preparation for Thursday’s simulation exercise.</i>

Program – IHL Summer School 2026

Lunch breaks are every day from **Noon to 13:30** *unless otherwise indicated.*

THURSDAY | June 4, 2026

SESSION	DESCRIPTION
Simulation day	<p>Fanny Dagenais-Dion Canadian Red Cross 8:00 – 18:00 Rooms TBC – You will be informed the day before which rooms will be assigned to which exercises.</p> <p>Breaks will be indicated in a separate document. Meals for the day will be provided (Room FTX315).</p> <p><i>Based on a fictitious case, students will participate in different role play scenarios. Judges from uOttawa, the Canadian Red Cross and the Canadian military will play specific roles in the exercise.</i></p>

Program – IHL Summer School 2026

Lunch breaks are every day from **Noon to 13:30** unless otherwise indicated.

FRIDAY | June 5, 2026

SESSION	DESCRIPTION
<p>Morning session</p> <p>International Criminal Law.</p>	<p>Justin Mohammed & Leon Perez Representants from Justice Canada. 9:00 – 12:00 Room FTX302 Break (15 minutes): 10:30 Room FTX315</p> <p><i>Introduction to International Criminal Law. Review of historical developments after World War II with the Nuremberg and Tokyo trials, the experience of ad hoc tribunals such as the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the Rome Statute and the International Criminal Court. Canada’s War Crime Program, Crime Against Humanity Act and questions surrounding jurisdiction and investigation.</i></p>
<p>LUNCH BREAK</p>	<p>12:00 – 13:30 Free time</p>
<p>HOT TOPIC Session</p> <p>Mandatory for all participants.</p> <p>*GROUP PICTURE</p>	<p>Canada, Arm Transfers, and Accountability 13:30 – 15:00 Room FTX302</p> <p><i>How does Canada regulate the export of military goods to situations of armed conflict, and what legal obligations guide these decisions? This panel will examine Canada’s arms transfer regime through the lenses of IHL, international human rights law, and domestic export control frameworks.</i></p> <p>Bringing together Kelsey Gallagher, Senior Researcher at Project Ploughshares, and James Yap, International Human Rights Lawyer who represents a coalition of Palestinian and Canadian individuals and NGOs who are suing the Canadian government to stop arms exports to Israel, the discussion will explore the legal standards governing export authorizations, including Canada’s obligations under the Arms Trade Treaty, the Export and Import Permits Act, and broader principles of international law. Panelists will discuss how states assess the risk that exported weapons or military goods could contribute to violations of international humanitarian law or serious human rights abuses, as well as the challenges of transparency, oversight, and accountability in arms transfer decision-making. The conversation will also address the growing role of courts, civil society advocacy, and public scrutiny in shaping Canada’s approach to arms exports in contemporary armed conflicts.</p> <p>Moderator: Fanny Dagenais-Dion (Canadian Red Cross)</p>
<p>Closing ceremony & Info session for final exam</p>	<p>Penelope Simons HRREC, University of Ottawa Fanny Dagenais-Dion Canadian Red Cross 15:00 – 16:00 Room FTX302</p> <p><i>Closing ceremony and distribution of certificates. Short briefing about the final exam MANDATORY for-credit participants (30 minutes max.)</i></p>