



International Investigator Course

By the Institute for International Criminal Investigations

## **COURSE OVERVIEW.**

The IICI International Investigator Course covers four topic areas considered essential to provide investigation professionals with the additional skills required to conduct international criminal investigations. The four course topics, International Humanitarian Law; Military Organisations, Weapons, Operations and Modern Warfare; Evidence; and Investigation Skills are broken down into nineteen separate modules taught through distance learning and a two week residential course which involves participation in a range of seminars and competency based exercises.

## **INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATOR COURSE TOPICS, AIMS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES**

### ***1. International Humanitarian Law***

#### ***Aim:***

This element provides the participant with an introduction to this branch of the law, its evolution, why its needed and who can be affected by it. It provides the investigator with an understanding of the crimes and basic legal principles under international humanitarian law.

#### ***Learning outcomes:***

On successful completion of the course students will be able to:

- Understand the role and nature of international humanitarian law
- Distinguish between international humanitarian law and international human rights law
- Understand the meaning of “armed conflict” and differences between international and internal armed conflicts
- Know and understand the nature of crimes within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court
- Understand the modes of liability for international crimes

#### ***Mode of Study:***

- Pre-reading of course material
- Thirteen 50 minute seminars in residential phase of course
- Practical exercises during residential phase of course
- On-line quiz

#### ***Course Materials:***

- *An Introduction to the International Criminal Court.* William A Schabas, Cambridge University Press, 2ed, 2004.
- *Crimes of War*, R. Gutman & D. Rieff (eds.), New York: Norton and Co. (1999).
- *Investigators Manual*, Institute for International Criminal Investigations, 3ed 2006, Chapters 1 & 2.

**Modules:**

- IHL 1: Introduction to International Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law
- IHL 2: Crimes within the Jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court.
- IHL 3: Modes of Liability

**2. Military Organisations, Weapons, Operations and Modern Warfare**

**Aim:**

To provide an overview of modern armies; the nature of modern warfare; command and control systems; military organisation, structure and functions; together with an outline of the weapons available to armed forces and how and when they can be used.

**Learning outcomes:**

On completing this module the participant will be able to:

- Understand and examine the nature of military organisations
- Understand command and control systems and identify chains of command
- Determine responsibility for military operations or aspects of them
- Identify and interpret orders of battle
- Identify weapons, military vehicles and materiel used by armed forces
- Determine the likely makeup of a military group or its structure from the types of units involved and the weapons used
- Understand the implications, hazards and stresses that may be encountered in a conflict or post-conflict environment, and how to deal with these issues.

**Mode of Study:**

- Pre-reading of course material
- Ten 50 minute seminars in residential phase of course
- Practical exercises during residential phase of course
- On line quiz

**Course Materials:**

- *Investigators Manual*, Institute for International Criminal Investigations, 3ed 2006, Chapters 3 to 9.

**Modules:**

- Mil 1: Military organisations
- Mil 2: Tactical operations
- Mil 3: Peace support operations
- Mil 4: Weapons and armoured vehicles

- Mil 5: Modern warfare - A common model for command and control and responsibility
- Mil 6: Safety and security in a post-conflict environment (PCE)
- Mil 7: Staying alive

### **3. Evidence**

#### ***Aim:***

To provide participants with an outline of evidentiary requirements in international humanitarian law; interview and evidence collection processes and an introduction to large scale forensic death investigations.

#### ***Learning Outcomes:***

On successful completion of the course students will be able to:

- Identify what constitutes evidence
- Understand differences in evidentiary requirements between national systems and international courts
- Establish, through investigation, the elements of international crimes
- Conduct investigation of senior officials and other levels of offenders
- Establish and conduct evidence collection processes
- Process crime scenes
- Document the evidence collection process
- Understand the types of evidence available through forensic death investigations
- Understand differences between forensic disciplines and the contributions different types of forensic experts can make to criminal investigations
- Understand the process of exhumation of human remains from mass graves
- Determine when the exhumation of an alleged mass grave can contribute evidence in a criminal investigation
- Determine the likely impact of an exhumation on investigations, victims and the overall community.

#### ***Mode of Study:***

- Pre-reading of course material
- Eleven 50 minute seminars in residential phase of course
- Practical exercises during residential phase of course
- On-line quiz

#### ***Course Materials:***

- *Investigators Manual*, Institute for International Criminal Investigations, 3 ed 2006, Chapters 10 to 12.

- *The Handbook of Human Rights Investigation*. Dermot Groome, Human Rights Press

**Modules:**

- EV 1: Evidence
- EV 2: Collection of physical evidence
- EV 3: Forensic death investigations - mass graves

**4. Investigation skills**

**Aim:** The aim of this module is to provide the participant with additional investigation skills required for the conduct of international criminal investigations.

**Learning outcomes:**

On successful completion of this element students will be able to:

- Understand the role of and contributions of criminal intelligence analysts, research specialists, including political and historical researchers and military analysts
- Understand analysis processes, including the use of demography
- Identify sources of information
- Utilise the PEACE model to enhance interview skills
- Work with interpreters and translators
- Assess and implement requirements for witness protection and protective measures
- Determine what is required for the conduct of investigations involving sexual violence in armed conflicts.
- Interview witnesses and prepare witness statements
- Plan and carry out an investigation mission
- Navigate using a GPS device

**Mode of Study:**

- Pre-reading of course material
- Ten 50 minute seminars in residential phase of course
- Practical exercises during residential phase of course
- On line quiz

**Course Materials:**

- *Investigators Manual*, Institute for International Criminal Investigations, 3ed 2006, Chapters 13 to 18
- *The Handbook of Human Rights Investigation*. Dermot Groome, Human Rights Press.
- *Investigating Women's Rights Violations in Armed Conflicts* by Agnes Callamard in collaboration with Barbara Bedont, Ariane Brunet, Dyan Mazurana, and Madeleine Rees.

Amnesty International Publications and the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development. 2001.

**Modules:**

- IS 1: Information, analysis and intelligence
- IS 2: Sources of Information
- IS 3: Working with interpreters
- IS 4: Witnesses, approaches and protective measures
- IS 5: Witness Statements
- IS 6: Sexual violence and exploitation
- IS 7 Interview skills

**5. Competency Based Practicum**

Prior to the course students are provided with course materials. Based on their reading of this material they are required to complete an on-line quiz.

During the course all students are required to participate in practicum exercises designed to reinforce skills learned in the more theoretical aspects of the course. Students are provided with a series of clue documents, based on a fictitious scenario, that emulate the types of information obtained during an investigation of serious violations of international humanitarian law. Using this material students are required to:

- Interview a witness
- Prepare a short presentation on selected material contained in the reference book *Crimes of War*
- Participate in a seminar exercise involving viewing video clips of war situations and identifying possible violations of international humanitarian law
- Prepare or critically assess a witness statement
- Process a crime scene – documenting and collecting evidence
- Carry out a site assessment of a suspected mass grave
- Participate in a check point exercise
- Participate in a GPS navigation exercise
- As part of a team, prepare an oral briefing, based on the clue documents and information obtained in above exercises, characterising the nature of the conflict, outlining available evidence and possible violations of international humanitarian law and determining a plan of action for future investigation.