



New IHL Volunteer Instructor Program

A new IHL volunteer instructor program will be available in January 2019. The previous IHL volunteer instructor program was halted, while the IHL team conducted a review of the instruction materials and revalidated the training. We have now completed that process and are ready to roll out new instruction materials that will be available to be taught by certified volunteer and paid staff instructors. All IHL instructors will have to be certified on the new materials. For people previously certified to instruct IHL, we will have an abbreviated recertification process. Instructors will be certified as Basic, Intermediate, and Expert. The following classes will be available:



“Even War Has Rules – An Introduction to IHL” This class is a quick overview of IHL, hitting just the w-topops of the major IHL topics. It is designed for a 45-minute to one-hour presentation and given by a

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American Red Cross IHL Team Welcomes A New Legal Advisor



The IHL Team is excited to announce that we have added a new legal advisor to the team, Molly Kovite. Molly has an extensive and interesting background in IHL and is an exceptional addition to the IHL Team. Here is a little bit about her.

As the child of a diplomat, Molly lived abroad from a young age and attended international schools throughout her childhood. This unique upbringing, allowed her to develop a broad perspective on world events and to develop a

strong interest in international relations.

Her degrees include a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Italian from Barnard College, Columbia University, New York City; a Masters of Arts in International Relations from Dublin City University, Dublin, Ireland; and a Juris Doctor from New York University School of Law, New York City.

Upon graduation from law school, Molly joined the US Army’s Judge Advocate General’s Corps, where she sought out opportunities to practice International Humanitarian Law. As a Judge Advocate, Molly served two combat

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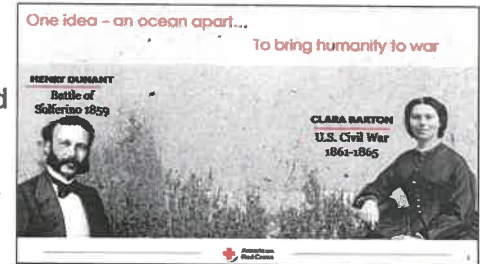
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Basic level instructor.

“Born on the Battlefield – The American Red Cross and IHL” This new version of the previous Born on the Battlefield goes more in-depth into IHL while still making the connection between IHL and the origins of the American Red Cross. Previous Born on the Battlefield instructors will see substantial changes from the previous Born on the Battlefield class. This class is designed for three hours with a 15-minute break and to be given by an Intermediate level instructor.

“Humanity in War – An IHL Primer for Professionals” This course is an intensive eight-hour IHL class. It is the most comprehensive IHL course we offer. This course is suitable for law school workshops and approved for Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits in some states. This course is designed to be team taught with two or more instructors. Instructors must be certified at the Expert level. Instructors are not required to be attorneys to teach this class, however, for CLE credit some states may require attorney instructors.



“Raid Cross” is a youth orientated, activities driven IHL course designed to allow participants to learn about IHL through hands-on simulation activities. This course has been revised, but will still be very familiar to previous Raid Cross instructors. Instructors must be certified at the Basic level and on Raid Cross.

“Youth Action Campaign” This program encourages youth and young adults (13-24) to learn about IHL and empowers them to explore IHL topics through peer-to-peer campaigns. The program is designed to teach youth about IHL topics, then facilitates the youth teams in creating their own IHL campaigns to inform their peers on IHL. Youth Action Campaign Coordinators must complete the IHL YAC Coordinator Training and be appointed as a YAC Coordinator by their SAF Division Director. The call for next year’s YAC Coordinators will go out in the late spring.

Training Requirements

Recertification of previous IHL instructors—People who have previously been certified as IHL instructors will initially be recertified as Basic level instructors through attending an abbreviated training program. There is a waiver process (described below), which instructors can use if they believe their teaching experience and IHL knowledge merits recertifying at a higher level. The IHL Team will host two virtual recertification sessions using the Zoom online platform—Monday, January 21 at 10am Eastern Standard Time and Tuesday, January 22 at 8pm Eastern Standard Time. It is only necessary to attend one session.

Basic level IHL instructors—New IHL instructors will be initially certified at the Basic instructor level after completing the Basic IHL instructor’s course in Edge

What is Zoom?

Zoom is a virtual meeting platform that provides voice, video and screen sharing capabilities. It can be accessed from a computer, tablet or cell phone. You do not have to download an app to access Zoom. Participants can see the screen of the meeting leader and interact with the meeting through voice or chat. Zoom will enable us to hold real time, interactive IHL classes.

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and participating in a virtual Zoom training with the IHL Team. Once certified, Basic level instructors can teach the “Even War has Rules” course.

Intermediate level IHL instructors—Once Basic level instructors have taught “Even War has Rules” at least two times and have participated in a virtual Zoom training with the IHL team, they can be certified as an Intermediate level IHL instructor. Once certified, Intermediate level instructors can teach the “Born on the Battlefield” course.

Expert level IHL instructors—Once Intermediate level instructors have taught “Born on the Battlefield” at least two times, they may apply to advance to Expert level instructor. All IHL Expert instructors must attend the IHL two-day Train-the-Trainer course and demonstrate a solid understanding of IHL before they can be certified as an Expert instructor. Train-the-Trainer courses will be offered quarterly. Once certified, Expert level instructors can teach the “Humanity in War” course.

Waiver request based on IHL knowledge —People who believe they have sufficient knowledge of IHL to qualify for a higher instructor level may apply with the IHL team for a waiver to advance to a higher level of instructor. Waivers will be approved solely at the discretion of the Director of the International Humanitarian Law Team.

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deployments to Afghanistan where she advised soldiers and senior commanders on IHL. During her first Afghanistan deployment in 2012-2013, she served with 4th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division near Kandahar Afghanistan, where she advised on a wide variety of legal issues primarily focused on IHL, but that also included rule of law capacity building, adjudicating claims resulting from combat damage and soldier misconduct. While conducting a foot patrol with her unit, Molly came under direct small arms fire from the enemy and was awarded the Army’s Combat Action Badge.

In a subsequent assignment, Molly was selected to serve as one of the first two women to act as legal advisors at a Special Forces line battalion. Prior to this assignment, women had not been allowed to serve in Special Forces line units at the battalion level or below. While serving in this job, Molly again deployed to Afghanistan, this time as the legal advisor for the Special Operations Task Force, Afghanistan from 2016-2017. In this position, she advised on a wide array of IHL issues, including targeting, operations, detentions, and rules of engagement. Molly was also selected to serve as a legal advisor to the 20th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives Command, where she advised on weapons of mass destruction. In addition to the Army Parachute Badge and the Combat Action Badge, Molly has also been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal and the Bronze Star Medal.

Molly left active duty military in 2017 to spend time with her family and to continue to pursue her interests in IHL. She has published articles on IHL and role of women in combat. In addition to her work for the American Red Cross, Molly also teaches IHL as a lecturer at the University of Washington in Tacoma. She continues to serve in the U.S. Army Reserves as a Judge Advocate.

Want to be an IHL Instructor?

Are you interested in becoming an IHL volunteer instructor or know someone who is? Contact the IHL team at IHLaw@redcross.org for more information.