

## Module specification

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Module code	LAW405
Module title	Law and the Legal System
Level	4
Credit value	30
Faculty	Glyndwr University: Faculty of Social and Life Sciences Bloomsbury Institute: School of Law
Module Leader	Dr Nandini Canoo
HECoS Code	100485 (Law) 100692 (Legal Practice)
Cost Code	GACJ

### Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Is the module core or option for this programme
LLB (Hons) Law and Legal Practice	Core

### Pre-requisites

None

### Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	66 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	0 hrs
<b>Total active learning and teaching hours</b>	<b>66 hrs</b>
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	234 hrs
<b>Module duration (total hours)</b>	<b>300 hrs</b>

For office use only	
Initial approval date	8 April 2022

<b>For office use only</b>	
With effect from date	June 2022
Date and details of revision	
Version number	1

## Module aims

The module aims to:

- Provide students with a broad knowledge and understanding of English legal methods and systems, including: the nature of law; classifications of law; sources of law; doctrine of precedent; principles of statutory interpretation; the court structure; and the personnel involved within the English legal system.
- Provide students with a broad overview of the Law of Contract.
- Develop students' subject-specific and transferable skills which will enable the effective study of subsequent law modules.

**Module Learning Outcomes** - at the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Explain and apply the main sources of English law (including EU Law and the European Convention on Human Rights), the doctrine of precedent and the principles of statutory interpretation.
2	Explain and evaluate the structure, jurisdiction and processes of the courts within the English legal system, and the role of those involved in the administration of justice.
3	Explain and apply legal research methods to retrieve up-to-date information.
4	Apply the doctrine of precedent and/or the principles of statutory interpretation to solve a clearly defined contractual problem.

## Assessment

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module.

**Indicative Assessment 1:** Will take the form of a portfolio divided into 2 tasks that could take one or more of the following formats: In-class test [45 minutes]; time constrained assessment (including MCQs) [45 minutes]; essay [750 words]; report [750 words]; presentation (including Pecha Kucha presentations) [10 minutes].

**Indicative Assessment 2:** Will take the form of a 1,500 word problem-based coursework.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
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1	1, 2, 3	Portfolio	50%
2	4	Coursework	50%

## Derogations

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None

## Learning and Teaching Strategies

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The module will be completed over one term.

Students will undertake 2-weeks of pre-reading and online activities.

The module is taught through weekly 2-hour lectures, 2-hour seminars and 2-hour workshops.

**Lectures** provide a broad outline structure for each topic to be covered. Lectures offer a good way of covering a lot of information and, more importantly, of conveying ideas to many people at once.

**Seminars** enable students to undertake directed self-study and to answer questions and solve problems which are set by the lecturer. Students will present their answers and solutions within the seminar group. Seminars enable students to explore further the topics introduced in the lectures.

**Workshops** follow on from lectures and seminars. They are designed to enable students to work within a small group to perform set tasks (e.g. working on an exercise or case study). They reinforce proactive learning by providing opportunities for discussion and interaction.

The seminar/workshop groups are small, thereby enabling students to develop a deep understanding.

**Student digital literacies** are developed on this module through the use of, *inter alia*:

- Online libraries and databases for gaining access to full-text journal articles and eBooks, including Westlaw UK and Westlaw Practical Law.
- Communication means provided through the VLE and learning technology applications.
- Assessment and feedback tools such as Turnitin and the VLE's Gradebook – enabling timely and detailed feedback on student work.
- Web-based Office 365.

## Indicative Syllabus Outline

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- The difference between common law and civil law systems
- The difference between public law (including criminal law) and private law
- Common law and equity
- How an Act of Parliament is created
- Delegated legislation
- Statutory interpretation
- Judicial precedent
- Legal research and technology

- Court hierarchy
- Legal personnel
- Lay magistrates and juries
- Law of Contract: Offer and acceptance; consideration; intention to create legal relations; capacity; vitiating factors; performance, termination and breach

## **Indicative Bibliography:**

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### **Essential reading**

Darbyshire, P. (Latest Edition) *Darbyshire on the English Legal System*, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

Westlaw Practical Law: Law School Resource Centre – Skills – Key Resources (Legal System)

### **Other indicative reading**

Boylan-Kemp, J. (Latest Edition) *English Legal System: The Fundamentals*, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

Brownsword, R. (Latest Edition) *Smith & Thomas: A Casebook on Contract*, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

Murray, R. (Latest Edition) *Contract Law: The Fundamentals*, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

Peel, E. (Latest Edition) *Treitel on the Law of Contract*, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

Students will be expected to consult a range of law journals (within Birkbeck Library and/or through Westlaw) with a view to developing appropriate legal research skills and to access supplementary readings in preparation for assessments.

## **Employability skills – the Glyndŵr Graduate**

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Each module and programme is designed to cover core Glyndŵr Graduate Attributes with the aim that each Graduate will leave having achieved key employability skills as part of their study. The following attributes will be covered within this module either through the content or as part of the assessment:

### **Core Attributes**

Engaged  
Ethical

### **Key Attitudes**

Commitment  
Curiosity  
Confidence

### **Practical Skillsets**

Digital Fluency

Organisation  
Communication