

Module specification

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Module Code	LAW404
Module Title	Law in Society
Level	4
Credit value	20
Faculty	FSLS
HECoS Code	100485
Cost Code	CACJ
Pre-requisite module	N/A

Programmes in which module to be offered

Programme title	Core/Optional/Standalone
LLB (Hons) Law	Core

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	36 hrs
Placement tutor support hours	0hrs
Supervised learning hours e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision hours	0 hrs
Active learning and teaching hours total	36 hrs
Placement hours	0 hrs
Guided independent study hours	164 hrs
Module duration (Total hours)	200 hrs

Module aims

The module aims to explore key principles and judgements in relation to the law; and to explore the practice of law in a range of specific contexts (housing deps; health deps.; CPS, solicitors firms; policing; HR departments; probation; consumer contexts; media; social work contexts: childcare; elderly; disability)

Module Learning Outcomes

At the end of this module, students will be able to:

1	Understand what is meant by society in a legal context.
2	Identify key incidents in history that have resulted in transformative case law.
3	Analyse potential ethical dilemmas that can arise in particular legal contexts

Assessment

Indicative Assessment Tasks:

This section outlines the type of assessment task the student will be expected to complete as part of the module. More details will be made available in the relevant academic year module handbook.

Group Presentation: Students to work in groups (n=5) to create a 20 minute multimedia presentation describing how the law has evolved in a specific context and has been applied to address specific legal dilemmas.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1	1 - 3	Group Project	20 minutes	100%	N/A

Derogations

The minimum pass mark for all LLB Law foundations of legal knowledge (FLK) subjects is 40%. Compensation is only permitted for a maximum of one module across the whole programme for a marginal fail (35-39) covering FLK subjects. (applies to LAW401D, LAW402D, LAW403D, LAW404, LAW502D, SOC575D, LAW601D, LAW603D)

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The learning and teaching strategy is grounded in the University's commitment to an Active Learning Framework (ALF) so that learning will be both accessible and active, and include synchronous and a-synchronous elements. Face to face classroom teaching will be supplemented by online lectures wherein students will be expected to complete activities such as watching Panopto videos; undertake additional reading; complete quizzes and exercises; and post comment for a-synchronous debate. These activities will be the subject of formative feedback by the module tutor. Added to this, will be access to staff who provide presence, challenge and support for student learning and can relate learning to real world uses.

Welsh Elements

The programmes will be delivered through the medium of English. Students are entitled to submit assessments in the medium of Welsh. If students wish to converse in Welsh, they will be assigned a Welsh speaking personal tutor. Students will be sign posted to relevant opportunities via the VLE and MS Teams page.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

- Introduction to 'Law' and 'Legal Systems'
- Sources of Law
- Institutions and Processes of Law-Making in England & Wales
- The Judiciary and the Structure of the Courts
- Statutory Interpretation and Judicial Precedent
- Interpretation Act for Wales Housing law e.g. *Pereira v Camden Council*
- Wales Housing Act
- Criminal Justice e.g. 3. *R v Dudley and Stephens*, 1884; *R v Sussex Justices, ex p McCarthy*
- Human Rights Law e.g. *Belmarsh Decision*; *James v Eastleigh Borough Council* (14 June 1990)
- Medical e.g. *Jodie and Mary conjoined twins case*; *Roe v Wade*; *Fagan v Metropolitan Police Commissioner* [1969] 1 QB 439
- Social Care law e.g. mental capacity act
- Policing law e.g. PACE 1984
- Employment law: *Smith v Safeway plc* (16 February 1996)
- Family Law e.g. *R v R*, 1991; *Medway Council v Root* (2019)
- Consumer law
- Childcare Law e.g. *Great Ormond Street Hospital v Yates and Gard* [2017] EWHC 972 (Fam); *Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust v Mr Thomas Evans, Ms Kate James, Alfie Evans (A Child by his Guardian CAFCASS Legal)* [2018] EWHC 308 (Fam)
- Media and privacy/ data protection *Lloyd v Google LLC* [2019] EWCA Civ 1599; *CTB v News Group Newspapers Limited and Imogen Thomas*
- Probation and Rehabilitation of offenders: ROA 1974; *Gallagher v Secretary of State for the Home Department*.
- Anti-social behaviour
- Visit to magistrates and crown courts

Indicative Bibliography

Please note the essential reads and other indicative reading are subject to annual review and update.

Essential Reads

Hutchinson, A (2010), *Is Eating People Wrong? Great Legal Cases and How They Shaped the World*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Barnard, C., O'Sullivan, J. and Virgo, G (eds), What about Law: Studying Law at University (2nd revised edition, 2011)

Other indicative reading

Students will be expected to consult a range of law journals and selected e-journals from WestLaw with a view to developing appropriate legal research skills and to access important supplementary readings in preparation for assessments.

Administrative Information

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Initial approval date	May 2021
With effect from date	September 2021
Date and details of revision	August 2025 – AM2 updated LOs for Jan 2026
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