

Module specification

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Module code	LAW504
Module title	Criminal Law and Practice
Level	5
Credit value	30
Faculty	Glyndwr University: Faculty of Social and Life Sciences Bloomsbury Institute: School of Law
Module Leader	Dr Joe Stevens
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	55 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
Total active learning and teaching hours	55 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	245 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	300 hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	8 April 2022

For office use only	
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 a critical understanding of Criminal Law, including: principles of criminal liability including strict liability; homicide and specific defences; non-fatal offences against the person; property offences; attempt; and general defences.
- Enable students to gain an understanding of the key aspects of criminal practice.

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

1	Identify and explain the substantive law governing criminal activity.
2	Apply the principles and rules of Criminal Law to critically analyse issues which relate to Criminal Law and to communicate such analysis effectively in writing.
3	Apply the principles and rules of Criminal Law to solve a broadly defined problem.
4	Apply key principles of criminal practice: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bail • Allocation hearing • Disclosure of evidence • Sentencing • Funding

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 2,000 word problem-based coursework.

Indicative Assessment 2: Will take the form of a portfolio divided into 2 tasks that could take one or more of the following formats: In-class test [1 hour]; time constrained assessment (including MCQs) [1 hour]; essay [1,000 words]; report [1,000 words]; presentation (including Pecha Kucha presentations) [10 minutes].

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

Derogations

None

Learning and Teaching Strategies

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 1-hour lecture, 2-hour seminars and 2-hour workshops.

Additional recorded lectures may also be provided through the VLE.

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.
- Online group-work, for planning, developing, improving, submitting and reflecting on collaborative work completed as part of the module.
- 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

- Principles of criminal liability including strict liability
- Homicide and specific defences
- Non-fatal offences against the person

- Property offences (theft, burglary, robbery and criminal damage)
- Attempt
- General defences
- Principles of lawful arrest
- Criminal proceedings in the Magistrates' Courts and the Crown Court
- Bail
- Allocation hearing
- Disclosure of evidence
- Sentencing
- Funding

Indicative Bibliography:

Essential reading

Kyd, S., Elliott, T. and Walters, M.A. (Latest Edition) *Clarkson & Keating Criminal Law: Text and Materials*, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

Reed, A., Fitzpatrick, B. and Seago, P. (Latest Edition) *Criminal Law: Textbook Series*, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

Westlaw Practical Law: Law School Resource Centre – LPC (Legal Practice Course) – Criminal Litigation

Other indicative reading

Gordon, G. H. and Gane, H. W. (Latest Edition) *Renton and Brown Criminal Procedure*, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

Harris, L. (Latest Edition) *Sentencing Referencer*, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

Lucraft, M. (Latest Edition) *Archbold Criminal Pleading Evidence and Practice*, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

Rees, T. (Latest Edition) *Current Sentencing Practice*, Sweet & Maxwell eStore [available through Westlaw Books]

Westlaw Practical Law: Business Crime & Investigations

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

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

Enterprising
Creative
Ethical

Key Attitudes

Commitment
Curiosity
Confidence
Adaptability

Practical Skillsets

Digital Fluency
Organisation
Critical Thinking
Emotional Intelligence
Communication