

## Module specification

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Module Code	LAW508
Module Title	Family Law
Level	5
Credit value	20
Faculty	FSLS
HECoS Code	100485
Cost Code	GACJ
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	30 hrs
Placement tutor support hours	0 hrs
Supervised learning hours e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision hours	0 hrs
<b>Active learning and teaching hours total</b>	<b>30 hrs</b>
Placement hours	0 hrs
Guided independent study hours	170 hrs
<b>Module duration (Total hours)</b>	<b>200 hrs</b>

### Module aims

The module aims to:

- Develop knowledge of the legal framework governing adult relationships, including marriage, civil partnership, and cohabitation.
- Examine the law relating to relationship breakdown, including divorce and financial remedies.
- Explore legal issues concerning children, including parental responsibility and child arrangements.

- Analyse the role of the welfare principle and safeguarding considerations in family disputes.
- Encourage critical reflection on the effectiveness of family law in addressing contemporary social issues.
- Develop practical legal skills through the application of family law to realistic case scenarios and dispute contexts.

### Module Learning Outcomes

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

1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the legal principles governing relationship breakdown, including divorce, dissolution, and financial remedies.
2	Apply relevant statutory provisions and case law to family law scenarios in order to provide clear, reasoned legal advice.
3	Analyse legal issues relating to children and parental disputes, including the application of the welfare principle and safeguarding considerations.
4	Construct structured legal arguments and documentation appropriate to family court proceedings, supported by relevant legal authority.

### 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.

**Assessment 1:** Students will complete a practice-based written assessment requiring them to provide legal advice in relation to the breakdown of a family relationship. This will involve analysis of divorce or dissolution processes and associated financial matters. Students will be expected to apply relevant legal principles to a factual scenario and communicate advice in a clear, structured, and professionally appropriate format.

**Assessment 2:** Students will undertake a practice-focused assessment relating to disputes concerning children and family arrangements. The task will require application of the welfare principle and consideration of safeguarding issues, which may include allegations of domestic abuse. Students will be expected to produce a structured legal document or submission appropriate to family court proceedings.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Duration/Word Count	Weighting (%)	Alternative assessment, if applicable
1	1 and 2	Written Assignment	2,000 words	50%	N/A
2	3 and 4	Written Assignment	2,000 words	50%	N/A

## Derogations

No derogations apply to this module.

## Learning and Teaching Strategies

The module will be delivered through a combination of lectures and practice-focused seminars. Teaching will incorporate problem-based learning, case study analysis, and the application of legal principles to realistic family law scenarios.

Students will engage in directed reading, independent legal research, and formative activities designed to develop legal knowledge, analytical ability, and professional communication skills. Students will be guided in undertaking legal research using primary and secondary sources, including case law, legislation, and academic commentary. This includes an introduction to research approaches (such as doctrinal research) and is supported by library resources and services.

Both assessments require students to undertake independent legal research using primary and secondary legal sources, including case law, legislation, and academic commentary, and to apply these authorities in the provision of legal advice and preparation of professional legal documents.

Opportunities for group discussion and skills-based exercises will support preparation for practice-relevant assessments.

## Welsh Elements

The module will operate in accordance with the University's Welsh language policy. While delivery will be through the medium of English, students may access institutional support, resources, and assessment submission in Welsh where required.

## Indicative Syllabus Outline

The module will typically cover the following areas:

- Introduction to family law and its social and legal context
- Legal recognition of adult relationships, including marriage and civil partnership
- Cohabitation and property disputes
- Divorce and dissolution processes
- Financial remedies on relationship breakdown

- Parental responsibility and legal parenthood
- Child Arrangements Orders and other private law disputes
- The welfare principle and safeguarding considerations
- Domestic abuse and protective legal remedies
- Public law child protection framework
- Alternative dispute resolution in family cases
- Contemporary developments and law reform in family law

### Indicative Bibliography

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

#### Essential Reads:

Herring Jonathan, *Family Law* (Pearson 2022).

#### Other Indicative Reading:

Duffield Nancy, Kempton Jacqui and Sabine Christa, *SQE Plus Family Law and Practice* (University of Law 2026).

### Administrative Information

<b>For office use only</b>	
Initial approval date	02 April 2026
With effect from date	01 September 2026
Date and details of revision	
Version number	01

