

Module specification

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Module Code	LAW602
Module Title	Law Dissertation
Level	6
Credit value	40
Faculty	FSLS
HECoS Code	100485
Cost Code	GACJ

Programmes in which module to be offered

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

Pre-requisites

None

Breakdown of module hours

Learning and teaching hours	10 hrs
Placement tutor support	0 hrs
Supervised learning e.g. practical classes, workshops	0 hrs
Project supervision (level 6 projects and dissertation modules only)	5 hrs
Total active learning and teaching hours	15 hrs
Placement / work based learning	0 hrs
Guided independent study	185 hrs
Module duration (total hours)	200 hrs

For office use only	
Initial approval date	May 2021
With effect from date	September 2023
Date and details of revision	May 2023 – admin correction – weighting



For office use only	
	July 2024 – Minor amendments to LO's and updated assessment strategy with implementation from Sept 2024. Admin correction to Breakdown of hours.
Version number	3

Module aims

The module is designed to support students in developing and completing a dissertation based on a topic drawn from their study of the individual LLB modules. Students are given the opportunity to develop independent research and argumentation skills, and to acquire knowledge on a discrete set of legal issues chosen by themselves.

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

1	To construct a research questions focussed on a specific area of law
2	To engage critically with legal research and scholarship on a specific research question
3	To critically analyse information from a comprehensive range of legal sources
4	To compose a commentary and make carefully constructed arguments on an issue in a specific area of law from the jurisdiction of England and/or Wales
5	To communicate the findings of research fluently in an extended piece of writing

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.

Dissertation (up to 6000 words)

Students are assigned a supervisor based on their choice of topic.

Assessment number	Learning Outcomes to be met	Type of assessment	Weighting (%)
1	1 - 5	Dissertation/Project	100



Derogations

None

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.

Indicative Syllabus Outline

- Law dissertation structure
- Legal research and literature searching
- Designing and answering a legal research question
- Literature review methodology
- Rapid/systematic review methodologies
- Assembling and presenting evidence/findings

Indicative Bibliography:

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

Essential Reads

Watkins and Burton, M (2017) Research Methods in Law

Slater, M and Mason, J (2007) Writing Law Dissertations: An introduction and guide to the conduct of legal Research

Strong, S (2018) How to write law essays and exams

Knowles, J, Effective Legal Research, (Sweet and Maxwell)

Watkins, D and Burton, M, Research Methods in Law (2nd edn, Routledge 2017)

Salter, M and Mason, J, Writing Law Dissertations: An Introduction And Guide To The Conduct Of Legal Research (Longman 2007)

Employability – the University Skills Framework

Each module and degree programme are designed to support learners as they develop their graduate skills aligned to the University Skills Framework.

Using the philosophies of the Active Learning Framework (ALF) our 10 skills are embedded within programmes complementing core academic subject knowledge and understanding.

Through continuous self-assessment students own their individual skills journey and enhance their employability and career prospects.

This Module forms part of a degree programme that has been mapped against the University Skills Framework.

The Wrexham University Skills Framework Level Descriptors: An incremental and progressive approach.

Learners can use this document to identify where and how they are building skills and how they can develop examples of their success.

