

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Practical Legal Skills and Ethics (Online LLB)

Reference	BS2309	Version	2
Created	January 2017	SCQF Level	SCQF 9
Approved	August 2017	SCQF Points	15
Amended	January 2018	ECTS Points	7.5

Aims of Module

1. To provide students with a working understanding of practical legal skills and knowledge such as of dispute resolution, written and oral advocacy, negotiation and client interviewing and counselling. 2. To enable students to obtain knowledge and understanding of the idea of justice, the idea of unjust law and the moral and ethical basis and context of law. 3. To allow students to understand the principles of ethical legal practice, and standards of professional conduct for lawyers in Scotland.

Learning Outcomes for Module

On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:

- 1 Develop and demonstrate key document drafting skills pertinent to legal practice.
- 2 Explain and demonstrate a critical understanding of the nature of legal concepts including legal rights, legal obligation and legal powers.
- 3 Explain and demonstrate a critical understanding of the idea of justice, the idea of unjust law, the moral and ethical basis and context of law and of ethical legal practice, and standards of professional conduct for lawyers in Scotland.
- 4 Demonstrate a practical knowledge and understanding of sound client interviewing and negotiating techniques.
- 5 Appraise the range of dispute resolution methods available.

Indicative Module Content

One part of the module will develop key practical transferrable skills required in the workplace such as knowledge of dispute resolution alternatives, written drafting skills, client interviewing and counselling and negotiation skills. The other part of the module will cover knowledge and understanding of major legal concepts including legal rights, obligation and powers and the idea of justice and of unjust law, the ethical basis of law and of legal practice and professional conduct for lawyers.

Module Delivery

This is a lecture and tutorial based module. Lectures provide core module content. Tutorials develop associated higher level skills through student centred learning. In the distance learning mode, in addition, online activities will form part of the module contact time.

Indicative Student Workload

	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	36	36
Non-Contact Hours	114	114
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	150	150
<i>Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body</i>		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

If a major/minor model is used and box is ticked, % weightings below are indicative only.

Component 1

Type: Coursework Weighting: 60% Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2, 3
 Description: Written coursework worth 60% of the overall module grade.

Component 2

Type: Coursework Weighting: 40% Outcomes Assessed: 4, 5
 Description: Written coursework worth 40% of the overall module grade.

Component 3

Type: Coursework Weighting: 0% Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
 Description: Compliance on a pass/fail basis with the requirement to participate in online forum and tutorial activities.

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR**Explanatory Text**

The module is assessed by three components: C1 - Coursework - 40% weighting. C2 - Coursework - 60% weighting. C3 - Compliance on a pass/fail basis with the requirement to participate in online forum and tutorial activities. Participation requirement - each student will normally require to (1) complete at least two out of three interactive activities in this module; (2) attend and participate in at least 4 out of the 5 synchronous online tutorial sessions per module. Module Pass Mark = Grade D (40%)

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	At least 70% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component, and a Pass in Component 3.
B	At least 60% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component, and a Pass in Component 3.
C	At least 50% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component, and a Pass in Component 3.
D	At least 40% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component, and a Pass in Component 3.
E	At least 35% on weighted aggregate, and a Pass in Component 3.
F	Less than 35% on weighted aggregate OR a Fail in Component 3
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	None.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1 BROWN, H.J., 2011. *ADR principles and practice*. 3rd ed. London: Sweet and Maxwell.
- 2 CHERKASSKY, L., et al., 2011. *Legal Skills*. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 3 FINCH, E., and FAFINSKI, S., 2014. *Employability Skills for law students*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 4 HERRING, J., 2014. *Legal ethics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 5 LEWICKI, R., et al., 2010. *Essentials of negotiation*. 5th ed. New York: McGraw-Hill/Irwin.
- 6 MALCOLM, E.A., 2009. *A guide to mediating in Scotland*. Dundee: Dundee University Press.
- 7 TODD, A. and SIM, I., 2016. *Commercial awareness for lawyers*. Edinburgh: W Green.
- 8 WACKS, R., 2015. *Understanding jurisprudence*. 4th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.