

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Legal Ethics And Professional Responsibility

Reference	BS4918	Version	3
Created	February 2017	SCQF Level	SCQF 10
Approved	June 2017	SCQF Points	15
Amended	June 2017	ECTS Points	7.5

Aims of Module

To familiarise students with the structure of the legal profession, and the roles and responsibilities of lawyers; and to provide students with a critical conceptual grounding in legal ethics and professional responsibility

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

- 1 Describe and evaluate the structure and regulation of the legal profession, and the roles and responsibilities of lawyers
- 2 Critically assess a range of ethical theories
- 3 Apply ethical theory and appropriate professional rules to practical situations in professional life.

Indicative Module Content

Professions and Professionalism The Legal Profession: history, organisation, and regulation Theories of Normative Ethics Role-Differentiated Ethics Clients: The Fiduciary Relationship Duties to Clients: Competence, Care Duties to Clients: Confidentiality Duties to Clients: Conflicts of Interest Special situations: "in-house" lawyering; lawyers in the public service; lawyers as mediators Duties to Court and others Duties to the community: legal services and pro bono work Fee structures Legislative Reform, changes to the legal profession; profession or business; "alternative business structures"/ "multidisciplinary practices" Judicial ethics

Module Delivery

The teaching methodology on the module will consist of lectures, seminars and student-led discussions

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: 50% Outcomes Assessed: 2, 3
 Description: Written coursework exercise

Component 2

Type: Examination Weighting: 50% Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2, 3
 Description: Open-book examination

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

The Module is assessed by two components: C1 - Coursework - 50% weighting. C2 - Examination - 50% weighting. 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
B	At least 60% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
C	At least 50% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
D	At least 40% on weighted aggregate and at least 35% in each component
E	At least 35% on weighted aggregate
F	Less than 35% on weighted aggregate
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 HERRING, J., 2014. *Legal ethics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2 KRONMAN, A., 1995. *The lost lawyer: failing ideals of the legal profession*. Cambridge, Mass: Harvard University Press.
- 3 PARKER C. and EVANS A., 2007. *Inside lawyers' ethics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 4 PATERSON, A. and RITCHIE, B., 2014. *Law practice and conduct for solicitors*. 2nd ed. Edinburgh: Thomson/W. Green.
- 5 RHODE, D., 2000. *Ethics in practice: lawyers' roles, responsibilities, and regulation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.