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MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Law Masters Research Project

Reference	BSM803	Version	2
Created	February 2017	SCQF Level	SCQF 11
Approved	March 2017	SCQF Points	30
Amended	August 2017	ECTS Points	15

Aims of Module

To provide the student with the opportunity to plan and execute an extended research-based study into an approved topic and to report the findings through a short dissertation or report.

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

1	Identify a suitable topic for a research-based dissertation or report and carry out a comprehensive literature review related to this.
2	Formulate a research proposal and translate this into a feasible plan for its execution and completion within the timescale available.
3	Critically evaluate a range of appropriate research methods, and use the selected one(s) in a competent and professional manner.
4	Analyse and critically evaluate the results obtained from research.
5	Produce a 7000 word dissertation or report on the topic written to professional standards and, if required, orally present and defend the same.

Indicative Module Content

This will be specific to each individual dissertation/ report. Normally will involve: research proposal; research methods; literature review; critical analysis and evaluation of research material; findings/recommendations.

Module Delivery

The dissertation/ report is prepared under the direction of an academic supervisor.

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Indicative Student Workload	Full Time	Part Time
Contact Hours	20	20
Non-Contact Hours	280	280
Placement/Work-Based Learning Experience [Notional] Hours	N/A	N/A
TOTAL	300	300
Actual Placement hours for professional, statutory or regulatory body		

ASSESSMENT PLAN

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

Component 1

Type:	Coursework	Weighting:	100%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Description:	Assessment will be based on the 8000 word dissertation or report, and if required, oral presentation.				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

The module is assessed by one component: C1 - Coursework - 100% weighting. Module Pass Mark = Grade D (40%)

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	70% or above
B	60% - 69%
C	50% - 59%
D	40% - 49%
E	35% - 39%
F	0% - 34%
NS	Non-submission of work by published deadline or non-attendance for examination

Module Requirements

Prerequisites for Module	Satisfactory completion of the Pg Certificate and Pg Diploma Stages of the course.
Corequisites for module	None.
Precluded Modules	None.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

The subject specific bibliography will be determined by the dissertation topic.

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INDICATIVE BIBLIOGRAPHY

1	Higgins, H. and Tatham, L., 2010. *Successful legal writing.* 2nd ed. London: Sweet and Maxwell.
2	Fink, A., 2010. *Conducting research literature reviews: from the internet to paper.* 3rd ed. London: Sage.
3	Fullerton, K.L., 2007. *Legal research skills for Scots lawyers.* 2nd ed. Edinburgh: W Green.
4	McConville, M. and Chui, W.H., 2007. *Research methods for law.* Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press. *ebook*
5	Salter, M. and Mason, J., 2007. *Writing law dissertations: an introduction and guide to the conduct of legal research.* Harlow: Longman. *ebook*
6	Ezeani, E.C., 2013. *Success in law studies: the ten things you need to know.* Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press
7	Finch, E and Fafinski, S., 2015. *Legal skills.* 5th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press
8	Webley, L., 2010. *Legal writing.* 2nd ed. Oxon: Routledge-Cavendish. *ebook*