

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Legal Skills And Ethics (online)

Reference	LL1103	Version	6
Created	February 2024	SCQF Level	SCQF 7
Approved	April 2021	SCQF Points	15
Amended	March 2024	ECTS Points	7.5

Aims of Module

To introduce students to the study of law by providing them with the ability to use legal research skills, an understanding of the sources of the law and the ability to interpret and use these sources, and introduce them to the core professional legal writing and presentation skills. To introduce students to the contextual, moral and ethical basis of law and 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 Make effective use of a law library; identify, retrieve and use information from a range of access points and demonstrate basic numeracy skills in making use of legal research statistics
- 2 Explain, and demonstrate competence in reading and interpreting, the sources of law in Scotland
- 3 Demonstrate competence in the construction and communication of legal argument
- 4 Demonstrate understanding of the moral and ethical basis of law and legal practice and standards of professional conduct for lawyers in Scotland.

Indicative Module Content

Distinctive features of legal literature; sources of the law; legal research skills and information retrieval techniques; use of legal research statistics reading and analytical skills appropriate for primary legal sources; legal writing, problem solving and reasoning; statutory interpretation; legal ethics and the impact legal ethics have in supporting sustainability.

Module Delivery

This is a lecture and tutorial based module. Recorded Lectures provide core module content. Tutorials and forum discussion activities develop associated higher level skills through student centred learning.

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
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
 Description: One written coursework.

Component 2

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

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR

Explanatory Text

This module is assessed by means of a component of substantive assessment, weighted at 100%. This is accompanied by a need to satisfy the participation requirements of the module, leading to the awarding of a Pass. The awarding of a D grade is the minimum requirement to pass the module, accompanied with a Pass for the participation requirements.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	A:Pass
B	B:Pass
C	C:Pass
D	D:Pass
E	E:Pass
F	F:Pass
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 DEWART M.H., 2019. The Scottish Legal System. 6th ed. Haywards Heath: Bloomsbury Professional.
- 2 FINCH, E. and FAFINSKI, S., 2021. Legal Skills. 9th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 3 GRANT, F., 2021. Legal Research Skills for Scots Lawyers. 4th ed. Edinburgh: W. Green.
- 4 HANSON, S., 2021. Learning Legal Skills and Reasoning. 5th ed. London: Routledge.
- 5 HOLLAND, J. and WEBB, J., 2022. Learning legal Rules. 11th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 6 MACQUEEN, H.L., 2022. Studying Scots law. 6th ed. Haywards Heath: Bloomsbury Professional.
- 7 HERRING, J., 2022. Legal Ethics. 2nd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.