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MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Legal Systems, Skills and Ethics (Online LLB)

Reference	LL1331	Version	1
Created	April 2017	SCQF Level	SCQF 7
Approved	May 2017	SCQF Points	30
Amended		ECTS Points	15

Aims of Module

To provide students with an understanding of the foundation elements of the Scottish legal system and their operation, 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 and retrieve 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 Explain the jurisdiction and functions of the civil and criminal court systems, the roles of the predominant law making bodies affecting Scotland and of persons working in the legal profession
- 4 Demonstrate competence in the construction and communication of legal argument
- 5 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, the civil and criminal court structures; judicial precedent; legal personnel; and the relation of Scots law to UK and EU law

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	72	72
Non-Contact Hours	228	228
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: 40% Outcomes Assessed: 1, 2
 Description: written assessment worth 40% of the overall module grade

Component 2

Type: Examination Weighting: 60% Outcomes Assessed: 2, 3, 4, 5
 Description: examination worth 60% 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 - Exam - 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 FINCH, E. and FAFINSKI, S., 2019. *Legal Skills*. 7th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 2 GRANT, F., 2014. *Legal Research Skills for Scots Lawyers*. 3rd ed. Edinburgh: W. Green.
- 3 HANSON, S., 2016. *Legal Methods, Reasoning and Skills*. 4th ed. London: Routledge.
- 4 HIGGINS, E. and TATHAM, L., 2010. *Successful legal writing*. 2nd ed. London: Sweet and Maxwell.
- 5 HOLLAND, J. and WEBB, J., 2019. *Learning legal Rules*. 10th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 6 MACQUEEN, H.L., 2016. *Studying Scots law*. 5th ed. Haywards Heath: Bloomsbury Professional.
- 7 DEWART M.H., 2019. *The Scottish Legal System*. 6th ed. Haywards Heath: Bloomsbury Professional.