

MODULE DESCRIPTOR

Module Title

Practical Legal Skills

Reference	LL3177	Version	4
Created	February 2024	SCQF Level	SCQF 9
Approved	June 2017	SCQF Points	15
Amended	March 2024	ECTS Points	7.5

Aims of Module

1. To develop the legal research skills to which the students are introduced in LL1330 Legal Systems, Skills and Ethics so as to enable students to design a research proposal and to apply these skills in the workplace. 2. To provide students with a working understanding of practical legal skills including dispute resolution, written and oral communication and advocacy, negotiation and client interviewing and counselling.

Learning Outcomes for Module

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

- 1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the legal research process.
- 2 Make effective use of specialist legal data retrieval systems and critically evaluate the material forming the results of the search.
- 3 Via an oral presentation, effectively communicate the aims and objectives of research, methodology, interpretation of data and research findings.

Indicative Module Content

One half of the module will address legal information searching and retrieval, effective literature research strategies, critical analysis and evaluation of data, construction of a research proposal, management of a research project, the ethical dimension to research and presentation of research. The other half of the module will develop key practical transferrable skills required in the workplace such as dispute resolution skills, advocacy, client interviewing and counselling and drafting of documents. The module will cover the aforementioned topics whilst highlighting their alignment and significance with sustainability.

Module Delivery

Delivery of the subject matter will be through a combination of lectures and workshops, and case studies and practical exercises in seminars.

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:	100%	Outcomes Assessed:	1, 2, 3
Description:	Oral presentation focussed on a legal research proposal				

MODULE PERFORMANCE DESCRIPTOR**Explanatory Text**

Component 1 comprises 100% of the module grade. To pass the module a D grade is required.

Module Grade	Minimum Requirements to achieve Module Grade:
A	The student needs to achieve an A in C1
B	The student needs to achieve a B in C1
C	The student needs to achieve a C in C1
D	The student needs to achieve a D in C1
E	The student needs to achieve an E in C1
F	The student needs to achieve an F in C1
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 BOYLE, F., AND CAPPS, D., 2019. *A Practical Guide to Lawyering Skills* 4th ed. London: Routledge.
- 2 CHERKASSKY, L. et al., 2011. *Legal skills*. Hampshire: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 3 COTTRELL, S., 2014. *Dissertations and project reports a step by step guide*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 4 FINCH E. and FAFINSKI S., 2014. *Employability Skills for Law Students*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- 5 GRANT F., 2014. *Legal research skills for Scots lawyers*. 3rd ed. Edinburgh: W.Green.
- 6 KERRIGAN, K. and MURRAY, V., 2011. *A student guide to clinical legal education and pro bono*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- 7 LAMMASNIEMI, L., 2018. *Law Dissertations A Step By Step Guide*. . London: Routledge.
- 8 TODD A. and SIM I., 2019 *Commercial awareness for lawyers*. 2nd ed., Edinburgh: W.Green.